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THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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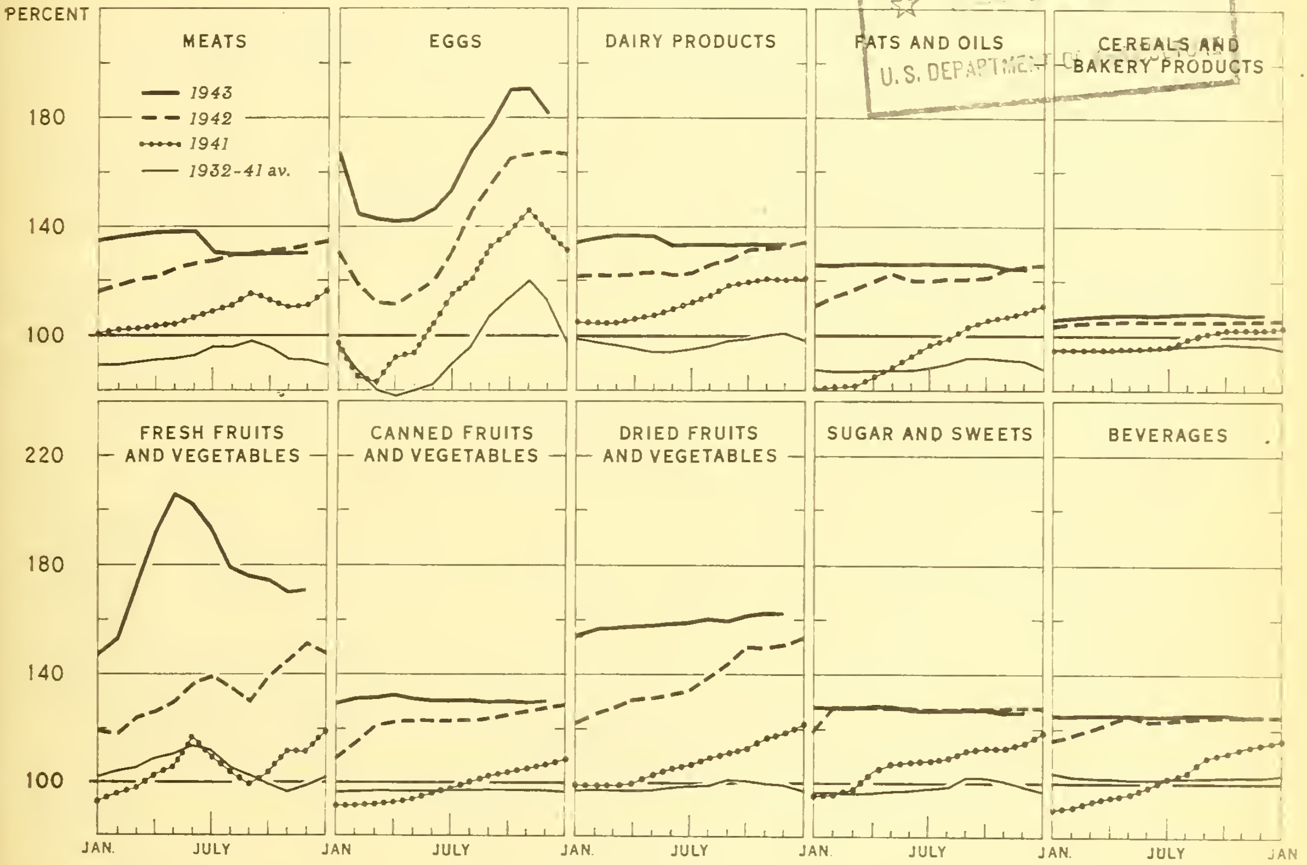
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD GROUPS, UNITED STATES, 1932-41 AVERAGE, AND 1941-43
INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



BASED ON DATA FROM B. L. S.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 43412 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

Despite huge war requirements, civilians consumed 5 to 7 percent more food in 1943 than in the pre-war period 1935-39, and only about 2 percent less than in 1942, according to preliminary estimates. Food production in 1944 is expected to be somewhat above the record reached in 1943 if yields are normal. However, both military and lend-lease requirements will be larger in 1944 than in 1943 and shipments for European relief may become a more important factor than in the past. It appears, therefore, that the larger noncivilian requirements will about offset any increases in food production, so that the total food supply for civilians is not likely to exceed that of 1943 and may even be somewhat smaller.

From available data it appears that in 1943 civilians consumed record quantities of chickens, eggs, fluid milk, margarine, potatoes, and dry peas. On the other hand, consumption of fish, butter, cheese, deciduous fresh and canned fruits, and fresh and canned vegetables was substantially below the 1942 level. The 1943 per capita consumption of meat is now estimated to have been 5 pounds more than the average in 1935-39 but 6 pounds less than in 1942. From a nutritional point of view, the civilian diet in 1943 was superior to the pre-war diet in 1935-39 and with a few exceptions, the per capita consumption of the major nutrients -- calories, proteins, vitamins, and minerals -- was as large as in 1942. Military food purchases in 1943 increased about 75 percent over 1942, and accounted for about 13 percent of the total 1943 production. Lend-lease and other exports showed a 57 percent increase over 1942 and amounted to about 12 percent of the total production in 1943.

-- January 20, 1944

Table 1.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary indications for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Meats (dressed weight)							
Total	126	143	137	131	132	105	101
Poultry products							
Eggs 2/	37.5	39.2	39.5	43.2	44	117	102
Chickens (dressed weight)	18.0	19.5	21.8	28.4	26	145	92
Turkeys (dressed weight)	2.7	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.1	115	89
Dairy products							
Total milk	806.4	814.6	844.2	779.9	754	94	97
All cheese	5.6	6.0	6.3	5.1	4.2	75	82
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.8	18.6	18.3	19.7	15	90	77
Fluid milk and cream	342.3	353.5	375.5	405.0	401	117	99
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory	16.8	16.0	15.7	12.4	12	71	97
Lard	11.0	14.2	13.5	14.3	14	127	98
Shortening (fat content)	11.9	10.5	9.0	9.1	7.9	66	87
Margarine (fat content)	2.3	2.2	2.3	3.3	3.6	157	109
Other food products and uses (fat content)	6.3	8.4	8.3	7.3	6.5	103	89
Total fats and oils	48.3	51.4	48.8	46.4	44	91	95
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	49.1	57.9	54.7	57.2	63	128	110
Apples	3/ 43.1	32.7	28.8	22.4		---	
Other (excluding melons)	59.9	60.2	47.9	37.4	4/75	---	4/125
Processed							
Canned fruits	15.0	19.2	15.1	10.6	7.4	49	70
Canned juices	5.4	8.4	6.8	7.4	7.0	130	95
Frozen	.7	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.9	271	136
Dried	5.7	4.5	3.9	5.1	5/	---	---

Continued -

Table 1.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary indications for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Vegetables							
Fresh	236.2	243.3	253.3	229.0	228	97	100
Canned	31.2	38.5	41.5	33.4	30	96	90
Frozen	7/ .4	.7	1.1	1.1	1.4	350	127
Potatoes	131.3	124.4	120.3	141.6	6/131	100	93
Sweetpotatoes	23.4	20.8	22.3	23.6	30	128	127
Beans, dry edible	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.7	5/	---	---
Sugar (refined)	97.0	105.0	83.9	79.6	77	79	97
Grains							
Wheat	222.8	218.9	222.5	224.3	229	103	102
Rye	3.2	4.3	4.8	5.0	4.9	153	98
Rice	6.2	5.5	6.2	5.9	5.9	95	100
Corn	57.6	64.3	73.6	72.1	74	128	103
Oats	6.9	7.1	8.1	8.2	8.0	116	98
Barley	21.6	22.6	25.7	25.9	26	120	100
Beverages							
Coffee 8/	14.1	15.9	13.1	11.5	16	113	139
Tea	.7	.8	.5	.5	.6	86	120
Cocoa beans	4.4	4.8	3.9	3.5	4.0	91	114

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official census estimates of total population less 90 percent of military personnel. It is assumed that approximately 10 percent of food consumed by military personnel is obtained through normal distribution channels.

1/ 1943 data are preliminary and those for 1944 indications. Calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July 1; fresh citrus fruits, sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans on a crop-year basis. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year. 2/ In terms of number of eggs the apparent per capita consumption was 300 in 1935-39, 314 in 1941, 316 in 1942, 345 in 1943, and 349 in 1944. 3/ Includes noncommercial which is not included in later years. 4/ Apples not reported separately in 1944. 5/ Estimates of consumption in the crop year 1944-45 are not available. Consumption during the calendar year 1944 is likely to be about the same as in the crop year 1943-44. 6/ Civilian per capita supplies of potatoes on a calendar year basis are expected to be as large as in the calendar year 1943. 7/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 8/ On a green bean basis.

MEATS

Review of the 1943 Situation

Civilian consumption of meat per capita in 1943 is now estimated at 131 pounds compared with the revised estimate of 137 pounds in 1942 and 126 pounds, the average for 1935-39. The reduction in per capita consumption from last year came primarily in beef for which noncivilian demand was heavy. Civilians received about 70 percent of the total meat supply in 1943. The remaining 30 percent went to the armed forces, lend-lease, and regular commercial exports and shipments.

Preliminary indications point to a total meat production in 1943 of about 23.2 billion pounds, dressed weight basis. This compares with 21.5 billion pounds produced in 1942. The production of pork in 1943 was 2 billion pounds larger than a year ago and accounted for the increase in total meat production. Beef production appears to have been moderately lower and production of veal, lamb and mutton showed slight increases.

The estimates for 1943 are necessarily preliminary because complete figures are available only for federally inspected slaughter. Present indications are that total meat production in non-inspected plants and on farms in 1943 was somewhat larger than in 1942.

In spite of very heavy slaughter of all species of livestock during the year, increased demands for meat by our armed forces, lend-lease, other friendly nations, as well as by civilians made it necessary to expand Government price and distribution control measures in 1943. During the early part of 1943 retail and wholesale dollars and cents ceiling prices were placed on most meat products. Meat rationing was instituted on March 29. Slaughter quotas were in operation throughout most of the year. Since only federally inspected meat can be shipped interstate, the slaughter in non-federally inspected meat packing plants was limited for the first 9 months of the year in order to make more meat supplies available to the armed forces, Government procurement agencies, and to civilians in deficit producing areas. Government procurement of meat was further aided by set-aside orders on meat and lard reserving certain amounts of all slaughter under Federal inspection for Government purchase, and by orders restricting the size of slaughterers' meat and lard inventories. Since the slaughter was heavy enough to meet Government procurement needs, these orders were suspended in the last quarter of the year, and ration point values for meats were reduced to the low levels that existed at the beginning of the rationing program.

Consumers benefited from the reduction of maximum prices of meat which was instituted in June through a system of Government processing payments to slaughterers. These payments resulted in a roll-back of meat prices at retail and wholesale levels. Retail meat prices were reduced 3 cents per pound on the average.

Late in 1943 ceiling prices were announced for live hogs. Live cattle prices were stabilized within a narrow range by the Office of Economic Stabilization in December.

Outlook for 1944

Civilians are expected to receive approximately the same amount of meat per capita in 1944 as in 1943. The estimated increase in production over 1943 is likely to be absorbed by military, lend-lease, and foreign relief requirements. A contingency reserve also is provided. If present production estimates prove to be substantially correct, if noncivilian requirements do not materially change, and the contingency reserve is not used for war purposes, civilians may receive somewhat more meat per capita than is now indicated.

Meat production in 1944 is expected to be considerably larger than last year, reflecting the record size of the 1943 pig crop, the very large number of cattle on farms, and a less favorable feed situation than has existed in the past few years. Hog slaughter may exceed 100 million head in 1944 compared with a slaughter of about 90 million head in 1943. Cattle slaughter also is likely to be substantially larger than the 17 million head slaughtered last year. Sheep numbers have been decreasing in the past 2 years, and production of lamb and mutton will be smaller this year than last. Meat production in 1944 may total about 25 billion pounds, which would be an increase of 8 percent over the indicated production in 1943.

Total meat production in the first quarter of 1944 may be about the same as production during the last 3 months of 1943. Pork production is expected to be very high with a seasonal decline in February and March. Cattle and sheep slaughter will probably continue relatively heavy during the first 3 months of this year.

FISH

The civilian supply of fish in 1944 will be about the same as that in 1943. The increased requirements for lend-lease and military use will probably offset any increase in catch or pack. The per capita consumption of canned fish in 1944 probably will be about 2 to 2-1/2 pounds compared with an average of about 5 pounds in pre-war years. War requirements for canned fish are particularly heavy and may equal 40 percent of the available supply. On the other hand, 75 to 80 percent of the fresh and frozen fish and shellfish supply will go to civilians, about 5 pounds per capita (on a dressed weight basis) compared with 6.4 pounds in 1935-39. The civilian consumption of cured fish in 1944 is expected to be slightly below the pre-war average but approximately equal to the 1943 consumption of .9 pound per capita.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Review of 1943 Situation

Apparent disappearance of eggs in civilian channels was at record levels for most of 1943 and a new record annual per capita egg consumption was established -- nearly 10 percent larger than in 1942.

The number of layers on farms at the beginning of 1943 was 15 percent larger than at the beginning of 1942. The rate of production per bird was at near record levels and total egg output reached a new high level -- 12 percent above the production in 1942. The consumer demand for eggs strengthened, reflecting the short supplies of meat and cheese in the first quarter and rationing of these items in the last three quarters.

Early in 1943 requirements for dried egg were officially estimated at 400 million pounds for the year. Facilities were expanded to produce this quantity. However, because of the strong civilian and storage demand for eggs, prices of shell eggs were maintained at levels high in relation to ceilings on dried egg so that procurement agencies found it difficult to obtain sufficient quantities of dried egg. To aid in the dried egg procurement program two food orders were issued in late March. Food Distribution Order 40 restricted the storage of shell eggs (in shell or frozen form) for other than Government purposes, to moderate working inventories. The control measures were relaxed through subsequent amendments and in October the order was terminated entirely. Food Distribution Order 41 restricted the production of spray dried whole egg to Government uses, and limited the production of other egg products for civilians to the amount produced a year earlier. This order also was lifted in October.

Production of all dried egg for the year 1943 totaled 262 million pounds, and at no time in the year approached the annual rate of 400 million pounds. However, the original requirement estimate of 400 million pounds was revised downward and by late summer it was apparent that sufficient quantities would be obtained for war purposes through January. In fact, by early fall, Government stocks of dried eggs were accumulating more rapidly than seemed desirable. Hence, in October the War Food Administration announced that it would consider requests from egg driers to cancel up to 50 percent of their forward contracts with that agency calling for delivery in November, December, and January. Price relationships in this period, however, favored sales of substantial amounts of shell and frozen eggs in dried form, so there were relatively few cancellations. On December 23, however, WFA announced that offers of dried whole eggs for February delivery would be accepted to help absorb seasonally increasing supplies of shell eggs.

Chicken production increased greatly during 1943 but increased supplies were not noticeable on the civilian market until the second half of the year. In most of the first half, poultry supplies were extremely short of demand at ceiling prices. Despite the record large civilian supplies in the second half, the unprecedented consumer demand was reasonably well satisfied during only a few weeks of the fourth quarter.

Turkey production, in 1943 as in several recent years, was limited by supplies of hatching eggs. Total slaughter in 1943 (dressed weight) was 37 percent larger than in 1935-39. Chicken slaughter, in contrast, was 63 percent larger than in that pre-war period. Consumer demand for turkey exceeded supplies by a considerable degree throughout the year. In order to obtain sufficient turkey for the military forces, it was necessary to ban almost entirely consumption by civilians from August through October, and reduce supplies for civilians in November and December. This action was accomplished through Food

Distribution Order 71. To facilitate the procurement of storage chickens for the armed forces, FDO 91 was issued on December 30, 1943 to remain in effect until about 70 million pounds have been purchased.

Outlook for 1944

Supplies of eggs for civilians in the first half of 1944 are expected to be about as large as in the corresponding period in 1943. The consumption of eggs in 1944 is now indicated to be 349 eggs per person compared with 345 eggs consumed in 1943.

Egg production has been increasing more than seasonally and will continue to expand until the 1944 seasonal peak is reached in April. Prices of eggs have been declining seasonally because of these larger supplies. In mid-January wholesale prices averaged about the same as a year previous.

Total egg production in the first half of 1944 probably will be somewhat larger than in the corresponding period of 1943. For the year as a whole, production may be 3 percent above 1943.

Lend-lease and military purchases may account for about 25 percent of the total output in 1944 compared with about 21 percent for these purposes from the production in 1943.

Civilian consumption of chickens in 1944 is expected to be about 26 pounds per capita which is 7 percent below the record consumption reached in 1943. Marketings of commercial broilers and fryers, as well as farm marketings of late hatched chickens and of fowl culled from laying flocks are expected to continue larger than a year ago through the early part of 1944. Total chicken marketings, however, have declined considerably from the seasonal peak of last fall. Supplies for civilians will be at a seasonally low level from February through April but will be somewhat larger than during the corresponding period in 1943.

The number of layers on farms January 1, 1944 is estimated to be the largest on record -- fully 4 percent more than a year ago and about 40 percent above the average for the period 1935-39.

The consumption of turkeys has been relatively stable during the war and is expected to average about 3 pounds per capita in 1944 compared with 3.5 pounds in 1943. Turkey production has been limited by supplies of hatching eggs. The shortage was especially pronounced in 1943 but present indications are that larger breeding flocks will be kept for 1944 egg production.

If the 1944 goals for chickens and turkeys are achieved, the total output of poultry for the year will be about equal to the 1943 level.

The requirements of the armed forces in 1944, as a proportion of the total poultry output, are much greater than were actual purchases in 1943. Present estimates indicate that military requirements will account for about 12 percent of the 1944 production compared with 4 percent of the 1943 production. Lend-lease requirements for poultry are negligible.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Review of the 1943 Situation

The total per capita consumption of milk and milk products by civilians in 1943 has been estimated at 780 pounds (milk equivalent) -- 7 percent less than the 1942 record and 3 percent less than the 1935-39 average. The decline in civilian consumption below the 1942 level resulted from a substantial increase in noncivilian purchases as well as a 1 percent decrease in total milk production. Noncivilian requirements accounted for over 13 percent of the total milk produced in terms of milk equivalent in 1943, compared with about 8 percent in 1942.

The decline in civilian consumption of dairy products in 1943 was chiefly in butter and cheese. The consumption of butter decreased 3.3 pounds per capita, and that of cheese 1.2 pounds, from the 1942 rate. The consumption of fluid milk, on the other hand, reached a record high of 344 pounds per capita which was 15 percent over 1942.

Civilian supplies of butter were acutely short during the early part of 1943, and butter was rationed along with other fats and oils beginning on March 29. American and other hard cheeses were rationed at the same time although civilian shortages were prospective and not actual at that time since there was a substantial carry-over of stocks from 1942. "Soft" cheeses were rationed in June, after it became apparent that their production was increasing while American cheese production was decreasing. Evaporated milk stocks had been exceptionally large on January 1, 1943. However, the rate of disappearance during the first half of the year was also very large, and to avoid imminent shortages evaporated milk was brought under rationing in June.

Milk production on farms in 1943 was 118.3 billion pounds compared with 119.2 billion pounds in 1942. The decline in production came after the middle of the year as a result of poorer pastures, less favorable price ratios, and shortages of feed concentrates. The War Food Administration took action to maintain production by making feed payments in the last quarter of the year to dairy producers according to their milk and butterfat sales, by improving the distribution of available feed supplies, by controlled sales of Government wheat, and by importing feed grains.

The increased civilian consumption of fluid milk and cream threatened the balanced output of other dairy products, and because of the difficulties in establishing any system of fluid milk and cream rationing, a series of limitation orders was put into effect during 1943. The maximum butterfat content of cream was set at 19 percent. The use of milkfat and nonfat solids in the manufacture of ice cream was limited. Fluid milk and cream sales in urban areas were restricted to 100 percent of June sales, and cream and milk byproducts to 75 percent, with possible compensating adjustments. Government purchase and resale programs were used in some fluid milk and American cheese markets to raise the producer price without affecting the retail price ceiling. Butter was among the commodities on which Government payments were made to reduce the cost of living.

Outlook for 1944

The total milk supply for civilians in 1944 probably will not exceed 754 pounds, per capita, milk equivalent, 3 percent less than in 1943 and 6 percent less than the average in 1935-39. This estimate is based on preliminary indications of noncivilian requirements in 1944 and an estimated total milk production 2 percent below 1943. The civilian consumption of fluid milk and cream probably will decrease from the 1943 total of 53 billion pounds as a result of the efforts of the War Food Administration to maintain the production of manufactured dairy products such as butter and cheese by the limitations on deliveries of fluid milk and cream in FDO 79. These restrictions apply only to urban areas and not to rural areas and small towns where some further increase in fluid milk consumption may occur. The pressure for diversion from manufacturing channels to fluid milk comes from consumer demand for fluid milk which increases as incomes rise. The civilian supply of manufactured dairy products is expected to be somewhat lower in 1944 than in 1943 as a result of the expected decrease in total production, the increase in noncivilian requirements, and the high level of consumption of fluid milk. The largest declines will be in creamery butter and American cheese. The per capita consumption of butter may decline somewhat from the 1943 level of 12.4 pounds. The civilian per capita cheese supply in 1944 may be only 4.2 pounds, .9 pound less than in 1943, and 2.1 pounds less than the all-time high in 1942.

According to present indications, the civilian supplies of condensed and evaporated milk are also expected to be smaller than last year. This will result from high military and lend-lease requirements, which will take up to 22 percent of the condensed milk production and 42 percent of the total evaporated milk production. The per capita consumption of condensed and evaporated milk was estimated at 18.3 pounds in 1942 and 19.7 pounds in 1943. However, consumption is expected to be only about 15 pounds in 1944.

Present estimates indicate that total milk production in 1944 may be about 116 billion pounds. Cow numbers in 1944 probably will average about as high as in 1943. However, feed supplies per animal unit for the crop year beginning October 1, 1943 were about 7 percent less than the 1937-41 average and 12 percent less than the 1942-43 supply. The visible supplies of corn, oats, and barley had been drawn on so heavily that the supply of the three principal feed grains on January 1, 1944 was about one-fifth smaller than a year earlier. The rate of grain feeding to milk cows on December 1, 1943 was 5 percent lighter than a year earlier, but heavier than in any other year since the beginning of records in 1933. The present rate of feeding is likely to be curtailed later this winter because of the diminishing stocks of grain, and milk production during the first quarter of 1944 may be 2 to 3 percent lower than a year ago. Production increases may take place after the beginning of the pasture season and after 1944 feed crops become available.

FATS AND OILS

Review of 1943 Situation

Civilians consumed about 46.4 pounds of edible fats and oils per person in 1943, according to present estimates. This was over 2 pounds less than in

1942 and over 4 pounds below the 1941 record consumption. The reduction came as the result of an increase in military and export requirements which took from 20 to 25 percent of the total 1943 supply. Because of increased incomes, civilian demand at ceiling prices exceeded the supply, and rationing of food fats and oils was instituted in late March, 1943. Butter was especially scarce as a result of the combination of declining production, increased military requirements, and diversion of milk to fluid consumption. The 3.3 pound per capita reduction from the 1942 butter consumption was an important factor in the decline in total civilian consumption of all edible fats and oils. However, an increase was permitted in the production of margarine, the civilian consumption of which probably was about 4.1 pounds (actual weight as compared to 3.3 pounds, fat content basis) 1.3 pounds more than in 1942. The 1943 civilian consumption of animal and vegetable fats and oils in other food uses was about the same as the year before. Lard consumption went up about 1 pound because of increased supplies late in the year. The consumption of other shortening, salad, and cooking fats and oils combined went down about a pound.

Outlook for 1944

War Food Administration tentative allocations of food fats and oils for 1944 civilian consumption total slightly more than 44 pounds per capita. This is over 2 pounds less than the estimated 1943 total. Civilian disappearance of food fats was unusually large in the period January-March 1943, before rationing began. The 1944 allocations are based on preliminary indications of noncivilian requirements for edible fats and oils, the assumption that the national acreage goals for oil crops will be achieved with normal yields, and that disappearance of fats and oils into nonfood uses will be slightly larger than last year.

The military requirements for food fats and oils are expected to be larger in 1944 because of increases in the number of men in the armed forces. Lend-lease and export shipments also are expected to be larger. If the European war ends in 1944, the United States supply may have to be drawn on temporarily to help raise the consumption in Europe from the present abnormally low levels.

The civilian supply of butter in 1944 will be only about 12 pounds per capita -- somewhat less than in 1943 -- as a result of heavy war requirements and reduced production. However, production of margarine may be raised to 4.5 pounds per person (actual weight) in 1944.

According to recent estimates, about 14 pounds per capita of lard, and about 14 pounds per capita of other cooking fats and oils will be available for civilians in 1944, provided military and export requirements are not changed materially from present indications.

FRUITS AND TREE NUTS

The 1943 Situation

The per capita consumption of fresh fruits by civilians in 1943 is estimated at about 117 pounds, 11 percent less than in 1942. The supply of citrus fruits in 1943 was of record size. However, decreased supplies of apples, pears, and peaches, and increased noncivilian requirements, reduced the total supply of fresh fruits available to civilians.

Civilian per capita consumption of canned fruits in the marketing year 1943-44, drawn largely from fruit packed in the summer of 1943, is expected to average about 11 pounds, compared with 15 pounds in 1942-43. The consumption of canned fruit juices in 1943, composed largely of citrus juices from the 1942-43 crop of fruit and of imports of pineapple juice, averaged about 7.4 pounds per capita, 0.6 pound more than in 1942. Even though there was a large total supply of processed fruits and fruit juices in 1943, increased war requirements and strong civilian demand at ceiling prices necessitated the institution of rationing of these items last year.

Approximately 14 million tons of fruit (fresh basis) were produced in 1943. This includes the major part of the record large citrus crop from the 1942 bloom and the 1943 production of other fruit crops as estimated by the Crop Reporting Board. Fruit production in 1943 was slightly smaller than in 1942 but moderately larger than the 10-year (1932-41) average. An increase in citrus production of 14 percent during the 1942-43 season above that of the 1941-42 season was more than offset in 1943 by a decrease in production of other fruits. Citrus fruit accounted for almost one-half of the fruit production in 1943 compared with about one-third during the 10-year (1932-41) period.

Total supplies of commercially canned fruits for 1943-44 (packs plus carryin stocks) are estimated at approximately 2-3/4 billion pounds, 19 percent less than in 1942-43. In contrast, the supply of dried fruits for 1943-44 is placed at about 1-1/2 billion pounds, 25 percent more than for the previous season. Supplies of frozen fruits in 1943 were approximately .4 billion pounds, about the same as in 1942. The total output of canned fruit juices reached a record high and supplies in 1943 are estimated at about 1.8 billion pounds, 28 percent more than in the previous year. In addition to commercial supplies of canned fruit, many consumers have available their home-canned stocks.

Combined production of walnuts, almonds, filberts, and pecans in 1943 reached a new record of 143,335 tons, 14 percent larger than in 1942 and 26 percent larger than the 10-year (1932-41) average. Production of filberts and pecans was substantially larger in 1943 than a year earlier, that of walnuts slightly larger, and that of almonds considerably smaller.

Outlook for 1944

Although present indications point to a considerable increase in total fruit production in 1944, both civilian and noncivilian requirements continue large. War requirements in 1944, although not yet fully known, are expected to be substantially larger than in 1943. However, civilians in 1944 are likely to receive moderately larger quantities of citrus fruits and substantially larger supplies of other fruits than in 1943.

Civilians this year are likely to receive increased supplies of fresh citrus and other fresh fruits, about the same total quantity of canned citrus fruits and juices, and less of other canned fruits and juices. Civilian supplies of dried fruits, however, probably will be considerably larger than last year.

Total production of all fruit in 1944 may be about 9 percent larger than in 1943. Production of citrus fruit in the 1943-44 season, (fruit from the 1943 bloom) is indicated to be 4 percent larger than a year ago. The production of other fruits, mostly deciduous, may be about 12 percent larger in 1944 than in 1943. This forecast is based on present fruit acreage and assuming average weather.

VEGETABLES

Review of 1943 Situation

Civilian per capita consumption of commercial truck crops produced for fresh market shipment is estimated at approximately 14 percent less in 1943 than in 1942. This decline in consumption was the result of a production 7 percent below that of 1942, and of increased noncivilian requirements. Snap beans, carrots, and kale were the only truck crops in substantially larger commercial supply for civilians in 1943. The smaller supply of commercially produced truck crops was offset to a considerable extent by increased production in Victory Gardens.

Civilian per capita consumption of canned vegetables during the marketing year 1943-44 is expected to be about one-fifth smaller than during the preceding year but slightly above the 1935-39 level. Production of truck crops for processing was only about 14 percent smaller in 1943 than in 1942, but noncivilian requirements were high and a record large quantity of processing crops was utilized in freezing and dehydrating.

The potato supply situation for civilian consumers in 1943 was one of extremes. Civilian consumption during the fall and winter months of the 1942-43 marketing year was at a high level, and noncivilian purchases were large. The 1942 potato crop, however, was only slightly larger than average. Consequently, by early spring an acute potato shortage developed which continued until June. During the latter part of June and in July markets were glutted by large supplies of early and intermediate crop potatoes. The total 1943 potato crop of 465 million bushels sets an all-time record. Civilian supplies of potatoes, therefore, have been plentiful since early summer. The civilian per capita consumption of potatoes during the 12-month period ending June 30, 1944 is now estimated at about 142 pounds, which is 18 percent above the consumption in the preceding 12 months, and 8 percent above the 1935-39 average.

Per capita civilian consumption of sweetpotatoes during the crop year 1943-44 is estimated at 23.6 pounds, 1.3 pounds more than in 1942-43. Increased military and lend-lease requirements (including canned and dehydrated) have absorbed a large part of the 11 percent increase in production from 1942 to 1943.

A record large crop of 22 million bags of dried beans was produced in 1943 -- 15 percent larger than in 1942, and 52 percent above the 1932-41 average. Because of increased noncivilian requirements, however, civilian per capita consumption in the 1943-44 marketing year is expected to be about 8.7 pounds or approximately the same as in 1942-43.

The dry field pea crop in 1943 also is an all-time record high -- 10,870,000 bags, or 47 percent above 1942. Supplies available for civilian consumption during the 1943-44 marketing year are estimated to be approximately 1.6 pounds per capita, a quantity three times that consumed annually during the 1935-39 period.

Outlook for 1944

Total commercial production of truck crops for fresh market shipment will be about the same in 1944 as in 1943, if the acreage asked for in the 1944 goal (1,688,000 acres) is planted and yields per acre are equal to the 1937-41 average. This prospective production would give civilians about 10 percent less of such vegetables than was consumed in 1943, as noncivilian requirements are expected to be much larger. However, increased production from farm and nonfarm victory gardens may largely offset those smaller commercial supplies.

Winter season supplies of commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment are expected to be far above those of a year ago. On January 1, 1944, production of these crops was indicated at 1.4 million tons, 37 percent above that in the winter season of 1943. Intended acreages of the five spring crops thus far reported also are substantially above those of a year earlier. Therefore, it appears that civilian as well as total supplies during the first quarter of 1944 will be materially above those for the same period in 1943.

Supplies of commercially processed vegetables available to civilians in 1944 are likely to be somewhat smaller than in 1943. Supplies in the first half of 1944 are not likely to exceed those for the first half of 1943. Assuming that the 1944 acreage goal is met, and that yields equal to the 5-year (1937-41) average are obtained, the canned pack in 1944 (providing most of the marketings the last half of the year) will exceed that of 1943 by about 10 to 15 percent. Indicated larger noncivilian requirements from the 1944 pack, however, will more than offset this increase.

It is probable that Irish potato supplies for civilians in 1944 will equal or exceed those in 1943 if the acreage asked for in the goal is planted, and average (1937-41) or above average yields are obtained. Plentiful quantities are indicated for the first half of 1944 -- far in excess of those available for the same period a year ago. Supplies in the second half of the year probably will be nearly as large as in the corresponding period in 1943. Sweetpotatoes for civilians in 1944 will be more plentiful than in 1943, if acreage goals are met and average or above average yields are obtained.

SUGAR

The 1944 supply of sugar for civilian consumption will largely depend on the availability of shipping from off-shore producing areas, on the demands of the industrial alcohol program, on Cuban sugarcane, and on the requirements of our armed forces and allies. Because expected military developments abroad and wartime requirements may absorb 15 percent of the supply, present indications are that the 1944 civilian per capita sugar supply will be approximately the same as the 1943 per capita allotment for consumption of about 80 pounds.

BEVERAGES

The civilian supplies of coffee, tea, and cocoa are expected to be materially larger in 1944 than in 1943 because of an improvement in the over-all shipping situation. Indicated coffee supplies will permit a record consumption by civilians of about 16 pounds per capita (green bean basis), compared with 13.1 pounds in 1942, when rationing was introduced, and 11.7 pounds in 1943. Coffee was removed from rationing in the latter part of 1943. Civilian tea consumption in 1944 may average .6 pound per capita, about the same as in previous years. Cocoa supplies available to civilians in 1944 are expected to be 4 pounds per capita, (bean basis) one-half pound above the 1943 average consumption and about half a pound below the 1935-39 rate.

FOOD GRAINS

Review of 1943 Situation

The 1943 total domestic wheat disappearance of approximately 1.2 billion bushels was the largest in our history chiefly as a result of using wheat for feed. It is estimated that about 45 percent of the total domestic disappearance was used for food and that the remainder was for feed, seed, and the production of industrial alcohol.

The wheat crop of 836 million bushels in 1943 was 14 percent below the large production in 1942 but 13 percent above the 1932-41 average. While the estimate of stocks on January 1, 1944 will not be available until late January, it is expected that stocks will total about 800 million bushels or more, which would provide for expected domestic and export needs in the next 6 months and leave over 250 million bushels July 1, 1944. Imports are expected to continue to supply substantial quantities of wheat for animal feed.

Rye stocks on January 1, 1944, placed at 37 million bushels, are substantially lower than the very high level of 57 million on January 1, 1943 but 2 million bushels above the January average in 1938-42. The size of remaining stocks indicates that supplies in 1943 were more than adequate to meet requirements. Tentative estimates indicate that of the total rye disappearance in the past year 11 million bushels were used for food, 28 million bushels for feed, 8 for seed and 6 for alcohol.

Rice production in 1943 totaled 70 million bushels, about 8 percent above the high record in 1942 and about 48 percent above the 1932-41 average. Although large quantities have been required by other countries since oriental sources have been cut off, supplies have been adequate to maintain domestic consumption at about the level of recent years.

Outlook for 1944

Adequate supplies of wheat for food will be available to civilians in 1944. This is in direct contrast to the situation that existed in 1918.

It is estimated that the per capita consumption in 1944 may be slightly higher than in 1943.

Because of reduced acreage and poorer condition, the 1944 rye crop is expected to be less than the 31 million bushels produced in 1943. However, since only about 11 million bushels are needed for food and 8 million for seed, a considerable quantity would still be available for feed and industrial alcohol production.

The acreage seeded to rice in 1944 is expected to continue at record levels. With fairly constant yields per acre because of irrigation methods, the prospective crop should be large enough to provide for usual per capita domestic needs as well as to satisfy substantial foreign requirements.

FEED GRAINS

Disappearance of corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghums in October-December 1943 was about 8 percent greater than a year earlier and was the largest disappearance for this quarter on record. The quantity of wheat and rye fed to livestock also was at a record level for the period. Utilization of new-crop oilcake and meal, on the other hand, was only slightly greater in the last quarter of 1943 than in the last quarter of 1942. The comparatively large disappearance of feed concentrates reflects the record numbers of livestock on farms.

Total stocks of corn and oats on January 1, and barley on December 1, were about 15 percent less this season than last but were slightly above the average for the preceding 5 years. Making allowance for the disappearance of barley during December and grain sorghums in the period October-December, the supply of feed grains per animal unit on January 1, 1944 was about one fifth smaller than a year earlier and below that for all years since 1938, although slightly above the long-time (1926-40) average.

Livestock numbers are likely to be reduced to some extent during the balance of the current feeding year. But with a record number on farms January 1, the total number to be fed this season probably will exceed the number fed in 1942-43. With a slightly smaller total supply of feed concentrates available for the season as a whole, the carry-over at the end of the season for each feed is likely to be substantially lower than at the beginning. The quantity of concentrates fed per animal unit also may be reduced from the comparatively high rate of feeding in 1942-43.

Preliminary indications point to a total disappearance of about 285 million bushels of wheat for feed from July through December of 1943. Possibly 185 million bushels will be available for feed in January-June, 1944, depending partly on the volume of imports.

Hay supplies have been generally adequate except in the drought areas of the Eastern and South Central States. Although the movement of hay to eastern areas has been comparatively large, it has been necessary for some feeders, particularly in the East, to resort to heavier than usual grain feeding this winter.

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary indications for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of	
							Average 1935-39	1943
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef and veal	Mil. lb.	7,974	9,121	9,782	9,407	10,014	126	106
Lamb and mutton	"	871	925	1,036	1,073	998	115	93
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	9,447	10,642	12,691	14,020	191	110
Total meats	"	16,182	19,493	21,460	23,171	25,032	155	108
Poultry products								
Chickens (dressed weight)	"	2,325	2,641	2,990	3,800	3,800	163	100
Turkeys (dressed weight)	"	350	467	497	480	480	137	100
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	3,828	4,428	4,949	5,100	153	103
Dairy products 2/								
Total farm production of milk 3/	Mil. lb.	103,624	115,498	119,240	118,253	116,000	112	98
All cheese 4/	"	669	951	1,109	980	985	147	101
Condensed and evaporated milk ...	"	2,225	3,555	3,782	3,337	3,570	160	107
Fluid milk and cream 5/	"	44,147	46,900	49,433	53,519	52,830	120	99
Fats and oils								
Butter, farm and factory	"	2,170	2,268	2,118	2,061	1,965	91	95
Lard 6/	"	1,620	2,213	2,371	2,740	3,050	188	111
Shortening (fat content)	"	1,539	1,418	1,309	1,424	1,334	87	94
Margarine (fat content)	"	303	297	347	513	606	200	118
Other food products and uses (fat content) 7/	"	573	1,010	1,146	1,197	1,002	175	84
Total fats and oils	"	6,205	7,206	7,291	7,935	7,957	128	100

Continued -

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary indications for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of Average 1935-39	1943
Fruits								
Fresh								
Citrus	Mil. lb.	6,870	8,243	7,956	8,426	9,566	139	114
Apples	"	8/6,021	4,316	4,296	2,832	9/8,442	---	9/131
Other (excluding melons) 10/	"	4,847	5,390	5,056	3,596			
Processed								
Canned fruits 11/	"	1,666	2,295	2,293	1,677	2,084	125	124
Canned juice 12/	"	459	911	866	1,366	1,197	261	88
Frozen 13/	"	106	208	231	221	260	245	118
Dried 14/	"	1,127	905	1,025	1,261	1,150	102	91
Vegetables								
Fresh 15/	"	30,486	32,286	34,121	30,833	32,734	107	106
Canned 16/	"	4,084	5,821	6,784	6,120	6,786	166	111
Frozen	"	17/ 78	107	171	233	275	353	118
Potatoes	1,000 bu.	358,914	364,602	370,489	462,656	435,000	121	94
Sweetpotatoes	"	67,927	62,144	65,508	72,572	89,000	131	123
Beans, dry edible (cleaned basis)	1,000 100 lb. bags	13,606	17,047	17,612	20,066	22,000	162	110
Sugar (raw basis)	1,000 short tons	1,944	2,090	2,150	1,650	1,650	85	100
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	943	974	836	18/ 800	105	96
Rice (rough)	"	50	51	64	70	18/ 68	136	97

Continued -

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary indications for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

1/ Data for 1943 are preliminary, and those for 1944 indications. Calendar year basis except for: Fresh citrus fruit which is for the season beginning in the fall of the previous year; canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; and potatoes on the basis of a year beginning July 1.

2/ Calculated on fat solids equivalent. Data for ice cream consumption as ice cream for recent years are not available but it is estimated that in 1944 4,355 million pounds of milk (excluding milk duplicated in butter and condensed milk) went into the production of ice cream compared with 4,235 million pounds in 1943, 5,349 million in 1942, 4,540 in 1941 and an average of 3,083 in 1935-39.

3/ Total farm production of milk does not include approximately offsetting allowances for nonfarm production and quantities of milk fed to calves. Since 1941 milk for human consumption has been about .4 billion pounds less than farm production.

4/ Excluding cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese.

5/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use.

6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products.

7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, in bakery products, and other minor uses such as fish canning.

8/ 1935-39 production includes estimated noncommercial production, which is not included in succeeding years.

9/ Apples not reported separately for 1944.

10/ Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries, (including noncommercial), cranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums and prunes (including noncommercial), and strawberries (including noncommercial).

11/ Includes apples and applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, olives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears.

12/ Includes grape, grapefruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous including concentrates.

13/ Principally cherries, strawberries, and other berries.

14/ Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins.

15/ Total production includes reported production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market and farm gardens. Vegetables included, commercial: Artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, escarole, kale, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, shallots, spinach, tomatoes, watermelons. Other: Anise, broccoli, brussels sprouts, chard, chicory, collards, cowpeas, cress (water), dandelions, dill, endive, fennel, garlic, greens (unspecified), horsebeans (greens), horse radish, kohlrabi, mustard greens, okra, parsley, parsnips, pumpkin, radishes, rhubarb, romaine, rutabagas, rutabaga greens, salsify, sorrel, squash, turnips, turnip greens, mixed vegetables, Chinese cabbage, other vegetables.

16/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut, peas, pickles, pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, spinach, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, vegetable puree (including baby foods), mixed vegetables, and other vegetables and vegetable juices.

17/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

18/ Acreage goal times average yield.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES, JANUARY 1941-DECEMBER 1943 1/

Retail prices of all food combined rose rapidly from January 1941, and reached a peak in May 1943, when food prices were 43 percent above the average in 1935-39. Since June, prices have declined somewhat partly because of the reduction in maximum prices of meat, butter, and certain fresh vegetables. For the year 1943 as a whole, retail prices on all foods combined averaged 38 percent above 1935-39, and 11 percent above 1942 and in January 1944 were 37 percent above the pre-war average.

Prices of meats, eggs, and dairy products increased substantially over 1942 (see chart page 21). Following the issuance of the General Maximum Price Regulation in 1942, meat prices for several months reflected considerably less than the usual seasonal increase, but then rose again sharply until the dollars-and-cents ceilings became effective in April 1943. Subsequently, retail meat prices leveled off somewhat, and then dropped from June to August 1943 as a result of application of Government payments, with a very slight rise since that time. For 1943 as a whole, prices of meats averaged 35 percent above 1939, and about 6 percent over 1942.

Egg prices, on the other hand, increased much more rapidly, and in 1943 averaged 62 percent above 1935-39 and 19 percent above 1942. The prices of eggs each year since 1941 have been on a much higher level than the year preceding, following the seasonal pattern generally. After the issuance of the freeze regulation in October 1942, egg prices which then were below parity became comparatively stable for several months, made a delayed and reduced seasonal decline, and then continued to rise as before (see cover page chart).

Prices of dairy products rose steadily until May 1943, with a slight leveling off after the General Maximum Price Regulation became effective for fluid milk and cream in May 1942, the freeze regulation for butter, cheese, and certain other dairy products in October 1942, and the percentage mark-up regulations for the same products in January 1943. The roll-back on butter resulted in a sharp decline in prices of all dairy products combined from June to July 1943, followed by a stable price level since that time, contrary to a usual seasonal increase.

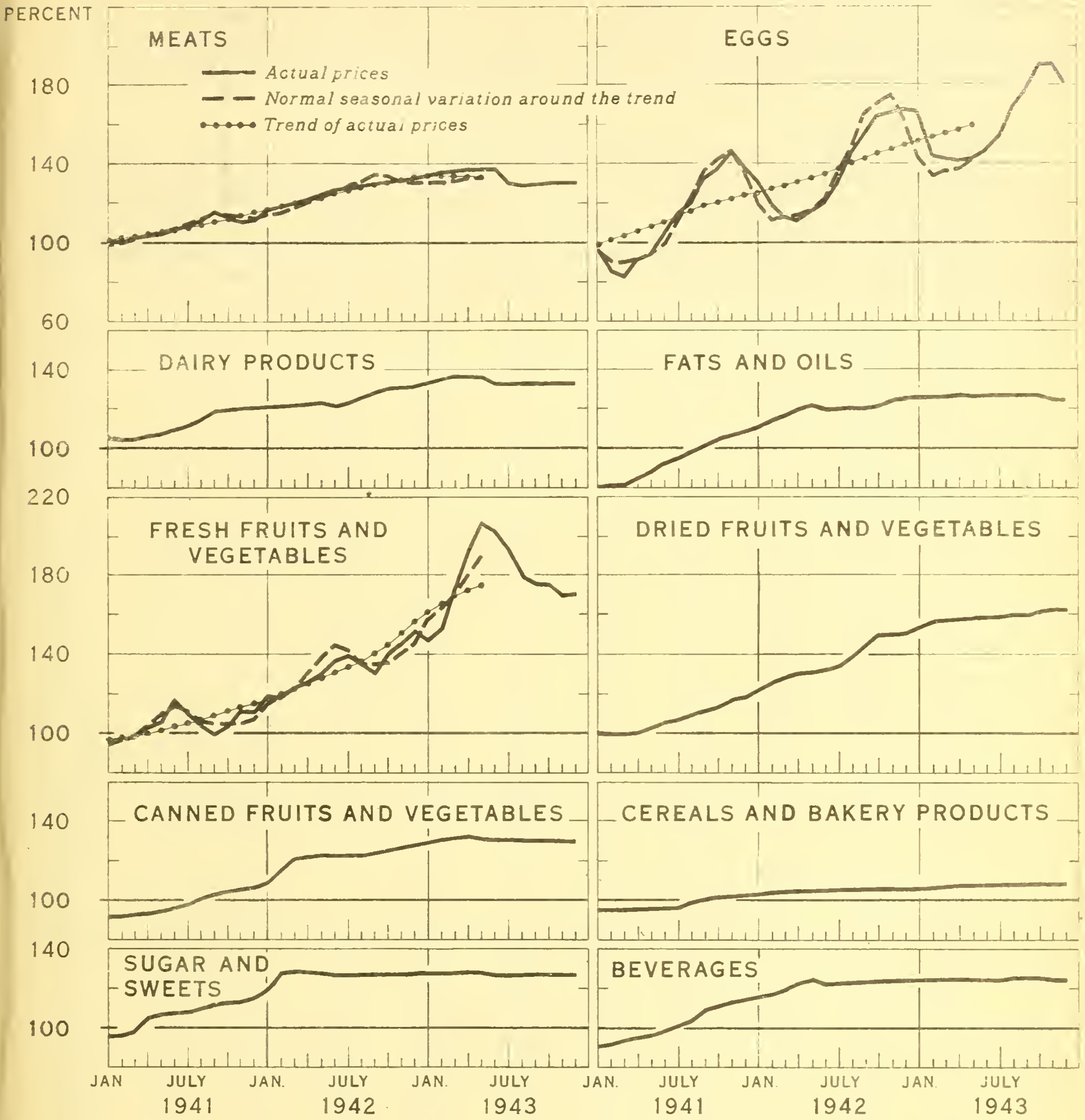
The General Maximum Price Regulation caused a slight decline in prices of fats and oils and then a leveling off until October 1942, when percentage mark-ups over net cost became effective for certain fats and oils. From October 1942 to April 1943 prices rose somewhat, and since then have remained virtually constant.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices have risen more sharply than those of any other food group, especially during the latter half of the period, with a slightly more than seasonal decline in recent months. Only comparatively recently have most of the items in this group been subject to effective price control regulations. Prices of fresh fruits and vegetables in 1943 averaged 78 percent above 1935-39 and 34 percent above 1942.

1/ Based on data from Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD GROUPS: ACTUAL PRICES, PRICE TREND, AND NORMAL SEASONAL VARIATION AROUND THE TREND, UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1941 TO DATE

INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



BASED ON DATA FROM B. L. S.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 43413 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Prices of canned fruits and vegetables rose sharply until the General Maximum Price Regulation in May 1942. They remained stable for a time and then were permitted to increase somewhat to reflect higher raw material and processing costs of the 1942 pack over 1941. Since April 1943 prices appear to have been stabilized. Prices of dried fruits and vegetables also increased markedly until the regulation establishing a percentage mark-up over net cost became effective in November 1942, with a more gradual increase since that time.

Prices of cereals, beverages, and sugar have remained at about the same level since the issuance of maximum price regulations. Price control on sugar at the processing and wholesale levels, beginning in December 1941, apparently has been effective in stabilizing prices at retail. Retail prices became directly subject to price control in May 1942 through the General Maximum Price Regulation, and in October 1942 a percentage mark-up over net cost became effective.

Table 3.- Index numbers of retail food prices and total cost of living, United States, by months, 1941-43

(1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruits and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Total cost of living
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1941	108	112	112	94	98	104	98	107	106	102	105	105
Jan.	101	97	105	80	95	93	91	100	95	91	98	101
Feb.	102	85	104	81	95	96	92	100	96	92	98	101
Mar.	102	83	105	81	95	98	92	99	98	94	98	101
Apr.	104	92	106	85	95	102	93	100	105	95	101	102
May	104	94	108	88	95	106	94	103	107	96	102	103
June	107	104	110	92	96	116	96	105	107	99	106	105
July	109	115	112	97	96	109	98	106	108	101	107	105
Aug.	111	121	114	99	99	104	100	109	109	104	108	106
Sept.	116	133	118	103	101	99	102	111	112	109	111	108
Oct.	113	137	120	106	102	104	104	113	112	111	112	109
Nov.	110	146	121	107	102	111	105	116	113	113	113	110
Dec.	111	138	120	108	102	111	106	118	114	114	113	110
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	127	122	124	116
Jan.	116	131	122	111	103	119	109	122	118	116	116	112
Feb.	118	119	122	114	104	118	115	125	128	117	117	113
Mar.	120	112	122	117	105	124	121	128	128	120	119	114
Apr.	122	111	122	120	105	126	122	131	128	123	120	115
May	124	115	123	122	105	130	123	131	127	125	122	116
June	127	120	122	120	105	137	122	133	127	123	123	116
July	128	130	123	120	105	139	122	134	127	123	125	117
Aug.	130	146	126	120	105	135	123	139	127	124	126	118
Sept.	131	155	128	121	105	130	124	143	127	124	127	118
Oct.	131	165	131	121	106	139	125	150	127	124	130	119
Nov.	132	166	132	124	106	145	127	150	127	125	131	120
Dec.	133	167	132	125	106	151	128	150	128	124	133	120
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec. 1/	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Preliminary.

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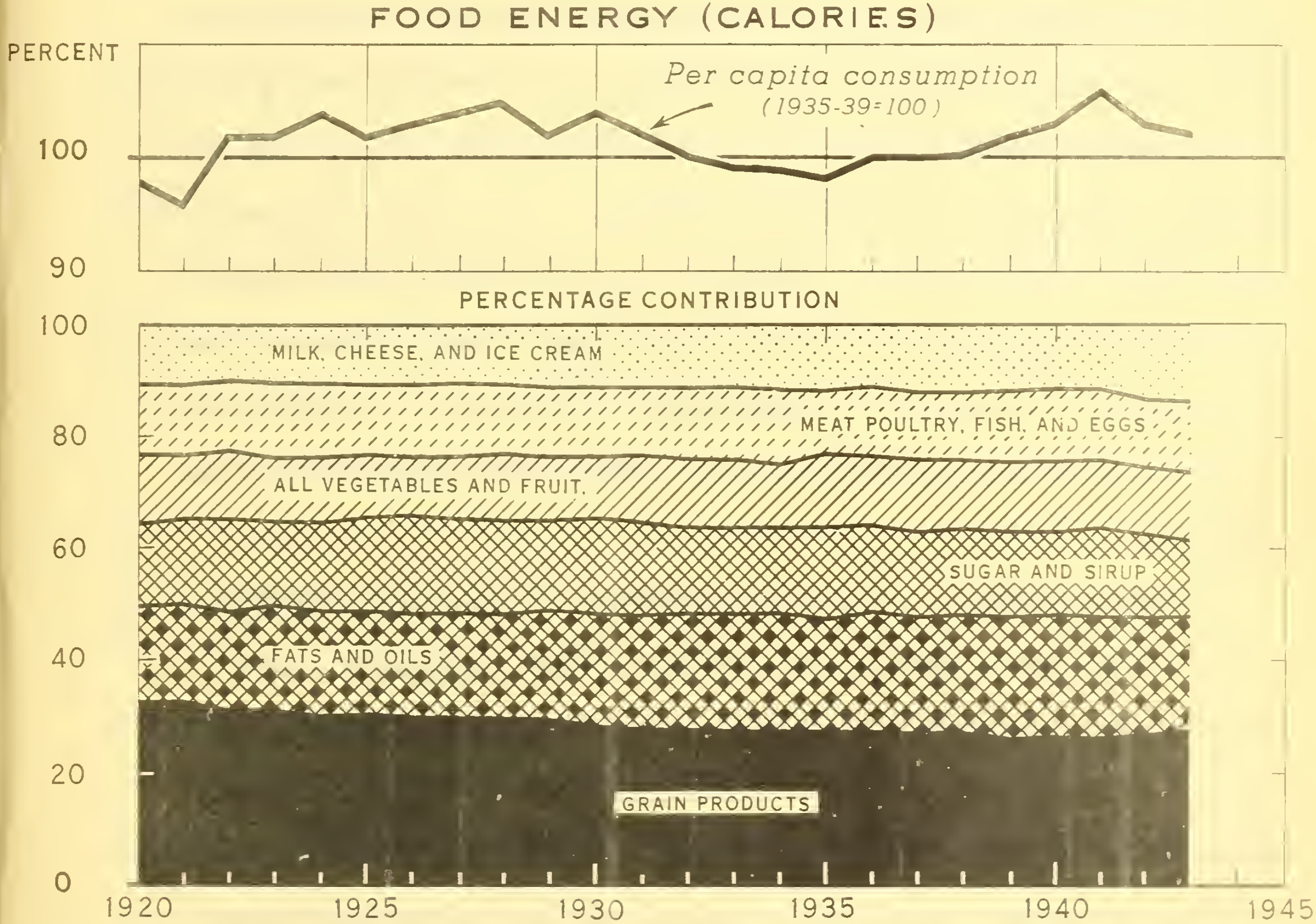
THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-13 BAE FEBRUARY 1944

TREND IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF CALORIES BY CIVILIANS AND PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MAJOR FOOD GROUPS TO THIS NUTRIENT, UNITED STATES, 1920-43*



* *EXCLUDES CALORIES OBTAINED FROM TOWN AND CITY GARDEN PRODUCE*

DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF HUMAN NUTRITION AND HOME ECONOMICS NEG. 43489 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

The civilian food supply situation for the next few months appears to be more favorable than for the same period last year, although the supply for the year as a whole is expected to be about the same as in 1943. The increase in supply is expected as a result of the greater than usual seasonal increase in the production of eggs, citrus fruits, winter truck crops, meat, butter, and lard together with relatively large stocks of the last three items, which are being rationed. These increases along with foods canned at home will more than offset for the next few months the reduced civilian per capita supplies of commercially canned fruits and vegetables.

Liberal supplies of meat are available for civilian consumption in the January-March 1944 period. Stocks of meat on January 1 were unusually large and have continued to increase since that time. However, with the seasonal decline in meat production, the usual out-of-storage movement is expected to begin next month. Even with a sizable carry-over at the end of March, the civilian supplies of meat in the April-June quarter probably will be somewhat smaller than in the first 3 months of this year.

Despite a record slaughter of meat animals in 1943, the continuation of the upward trend in livestock holdings was indicated by the inventory

of animals on farms on January 1, 1944. Cattle numbers on that date reached a new peak of 82.2 million head -- 4 percent larger than the number on farms on the same date the year before. Hog numbers were 83.8 million head -- 14 percent greater than a year earlier. There was only a 6 percent increase from January 1, 1943 to January 1, 1944 in the number of chickens on farms, whereas the net increase in 1942 amounted to 14 percent. Sheep and lambs showed a decline of 7 percent.

Supplies of eggs for civilians have increased considerably as the result of the larger than seasonal increase in egg production. Most of the increase has been going into civilian channels By the end of the second quarter, civilian supplies will begin to decline as production drops off seasonally, and as drying and storing operations are increased from the level of the first quarter. Poultry has been in short supply compared with civilian demand because farm marketings, although high for this season of the year, are below the peak reached last fall, and restrictions on the sale of storage poultry have been continued.

The civilian per capita consumption of all dairy products will be slightly lower in 1944 than in 1943, calculated on the basis of allocations recently announced by the War Food Administration. At present civilians are receiving the entire benefit of the seasonal increase in butter production so that supplies in the first quarter of 1944 will be larger than those of the fourth quarter of 1943. All noncivilian requirements in the current quarter are being filled from reserved stocks. Government and commercial cold storage holdings of creamery butter on January 1, 1944, were 130 million pounds above the comparable 1943 holdings.

The civilian demand for margarine under rationing apparently is being supplied in full. Supplies of lard are also relatively large at the present time. January 1, 1944, stocks of lard totaled 162 million pounds, 66 million pounds above the 1935-39 average January 1 holdings.

Total citrus fruit production for 1943-44 is expected to be about 6 percent above 1942-43 and about 52 percent above the average annual production in 1935-39. The increase over last year is entirely due to the larger orange crop. Cold storage supplies of apples and pears, January 1, 1944, are down 32 percent and 53 percent, respectively, from January 1, 1943, and indicate increasingly short civilian supplies for the rest of the winter and spring. The War Food Administration in February (under FDO 22.6) reserved 36 to 37 million cases of the major canned fruits and pineapple juice from the 1944 pack to meet Government war requirements. Even with the possible 20 to 25 percent increase in the canned fruit pack over the 1943-44 season, civilian supplies of canned fruit for consumption in 1944-45 may be only 80 to 85 percent of those in 1943-44. However, the civilian supplies of canned fruit juices are expected to be about the same for the two periods.

The set-aside of canned vegetables from the 1944 pack for non-civilian requirements, recently announced by the War Food Administration, would more than offset an increased 1944 pack based on acreage goals and average yields. Civilian per capita supplies available for consumption in 1944-45 would be about 15 percent less than in 1943-44, and 10 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average.

Supplies of fresh vegetables are substantially larger this winter than a year ago, as the result of an increase in winter season production of 17 commercial truck crops. The favorable supply situation is likely to continue throughout the winter season and into the spring, if yields are normal.

-- February 19, 1944

Table 1.- Stocks on January 1, average 1935-39, 1942, 1943, and 1944

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1942	1943	1944
		Mil. units	Mil. units	Mil. units	Mil. units
Meats:					
Beef 1/	Lb.	112	136	127	227
Pork 1/	"	502	469	491	514
Lamb and mutton 1/	"	5	8	35	33
Total 1/	"	619	612	652	774
Poultry and eggs:					
Eggs 2/	Doz.	78	93	75	102
Chickens 1/	Lb.	110	161	149	187
Turkeys 1/	"	24	50	36	37
Dairy products:					
Total dairy products (milk equivalent)	"	2,894	5,517	3,783	6,230
Butter, creamery 3/	"	64	114	25	155
Cheese 4/	"	107	202	131	175
Evaporated and condensed milk 5/	"	183	412	827	417
Dried milk 5/	"	3	6	7	14
Dried skim milk for human consumption 5/	"	19	21	98	69
Lard, including rendered pork fat	"	96	187	91	162
Fruits:					
Apples	Bu.	27	26	31	21
Pears	"	.04	1.4	1.5	.7
Fruits, frozen	Lb.	93	178	188	227
Vegetables, frozen	"	6/ 35	93	103	186
Potatoes 7/	Bu.	106	104	101	138
Grains:					
Wheat	Bu.	482	1,001	1,158	810
Corn	"	1,336	2,196	2,316	2,008
Oats	"	634	761	891	725

1/ On dressed weight basis.
2/ Shell and frozen eggs in cold storage -- shell egg equivalent (excludes stocks of dried eggs).
3/ Cold storage and Government stocks.
4/ Cold storage and Government stocks of all cheese, except cottage, pot, baker's.
5/ Manufacturers' and Government stocks.
6/ Average for 3 years, 1937-39.
7/ Commercial stocks of white potatoes only.

Table 2.- Livestock: Number on farms, January 1, 1935-39 average, and 1940-44 with percentage comparisons

Item	Average 1935-39	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of	
							1935-39	1943
	Million head	Million head	Million head	Million head	Million head	Million head	Percent	Percent
All cattle and calves	66.8	68.2	71.5	75.2	79.1	82.2	123	104
Milk cows	25.0	24.9	25.5	26.4	27.1	27.6	110	102
Sheep and lambs	51.3	52.4	54.3	56.7	55.8	51.7	101	93
Hogs	43.9	61.1	54.3	60.4	73.7	83.8	191	114
All chickens ..	405.1	438.3	422.9	474.9	540.8	572.5	141	106
Chickens, layers	364.4	392.7	381.4	426.2	1/487.1	2/515.3	141	106
Turkeys	6.0	8.6	7.3	7.6	6.7	7.5	125	112

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Estimated at 90 percent of all chickens on farms.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Civilian meat supplies in the period April to June 1944 will probably be as large if not larger than they were in the same quarter of 1943, but will be smaller than the liberal January-March 1944 supplies. The expected sizeable carry-over of meat from the first to the second quarter will be offset by the seasonally reduced total meat production in April-June. Commercial storage of meats, on January 1, 1944, excluding offal and edible trimmings, has been estimated at 774 million pounds, 19 percent above a year earlier and 25 percent above the 1935-39 average. Most of the increase over 1935-39 has been in beef, but the storage of lamb and mutton has risen from 4.8 million pounds, the January 1 average in 1935-39, to 33.2 million pounds on January 1, 1944. Most of the lamb and mutton in storage probably was Government owned.

The reduction in civilian supplies from the first to the second quarter will probably be quite gradual. An out-of-storage movement of meats, which offsets in part the reduction in production, usually occurs from March through October. Furthermore, as production falls off, the Government may reduce its buying for lend-lease. There is necessarily a time lag between the decrease in the slaughter of animals and the decrease in retail consumer supplies. This interval of time depends on the degree of curing and processing. Since a large part of our pork production is processed before reaching the consumer, the reduced slaughter of hogs which may begin in April, will not be reflected in the retail supply until later in the second quarter.

There now are record numbers of cattle and calves, and hogs on farms, and numbers of sheep and lambs are still at a high level despite some reduction in the past 2 years. The number of cattle and calves on farms on January 1, 1944, was 82.2 million, compared with 79.1 million on January 1, 1943, and an average of 66.8 million in 1935-39. Hog numbers were 83.8 million, an increase of over 10 million from a year earlier, and almost 40 million more than in 1935-39. Sheep and lamb numbers on January 1 were 51.7 million, compared with 55.8 million on January 1, 1943, and an average of 51.3 on that date in 1935-39.

Less cutter and canner beef was made available to civilians by the WFA action on January 30 which directed federally inspected meat packers to reserve 80 percent of their cutter and canner beef for purchase by the armed forces. Beef of cutter and canner grades is largely used for processing and in canned products. The Government is now reserving for purchase by the armed forces 50 percent of Choice, Good, and Commercial beef from federally inspected plants for carcass or frozen boneless beef and 50 percent of all federally inspected Utility beef meeting Army weight specifications. Previous to September 1, 1943, when quotas were suspended, federally inspected packers could deliver 30 percent of their production of cutter and canner beef to civilians, and 70 percent was reserved for purchase by the Government.

Farmers are allowed to butcher hogs and deliver meat to consumers off the farm without a permit or license until March 17. Prior to November 17, 1943, when slaughter restrictions on farm slaughter were suspended by WFA in order to stimulate farm butchering of hogs and thus relieve slaughtering facilities in commercial establishments, permits were required of farmers who slaughtered hogs and delivered pork to persons not living on their farms.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilian supplies of eggs have increased abnormally since mid-December because of the more than seasonal increase in egg production. This rise in egg production is attributable to the unusually rapid increase in the rate of egg production per bird because of unusually mild weather in January. In the North Central States the rate of production per bird on February 1 was at a level not normally reached until March 1. The number of layers on farms during January was only 5 percent larger than a year earlier, but with a record high egg production per bird, total egg production for the month exceeded last January's record by 17 percent. However, the increase from the record January production to the seasonal peak in April is expected to be considerably less than usual. Almost all the increase in total egg supplies has been going to civilians, since it has been too early to begin normal shell egg storing operations, and dried egg production has not taken up the slack to any great degree. The apparent disappearance of eggs for civilians in recent weeks has been fully 10 percent greater than a year ago. Supplies of eggs will begin to decrease by the second quarter and the decline will continue into the fall, with some minor fluctuations. The comparatively sharp price declines resulting from increased supplies brought egg prices in February to about the same level as a year earlier.

Commercial cold storage stocks of eggs, on shell-egg basis, amounted to 102 million dozen on January 1, 1944. This was 36 percent more than stocks a year earlier, and 31 percent more than the 1935-39 average.

Civilian supplies of poultry have declined sharply because of further reductions in farm marketings, resulting from the seasonally lower rate of culling laying flocks, and because of the continued restrictions on the sale of storage poultry under Food Distribution Order 91. In mid-February demand for poultry at ceiling prices greatly exceeded available supplies. According to revised estimates, 187 million pounds of chickens and 37 million pounds of turkeys were in cold storage on January 1, 1944. These are increases of 26 percent and 3 percent, respectively, from the holdings on January 1, 1943, and 70 percent and 54 percent from the 1935-39 average beginning-of-year stocks. For the first time in more than a decade, there was a net movement of poultry into storage during January, increasing poultry stocks by 6 percent.

Dairy Products

The civilian supply of milk and most dairy products is continuing at about the same rate as in the last half of 1943. The fluid-milk supply is larger than a year ago, but the consumption of other dairy products is less because of lower total milk production and increased non-civilian requirements. However, the production of milk and most dairy products has been increasing somewhat more than the seasonal amount because of relatively mild weather in January and a fairly heavy rate of grain feeding.

Stocks of dairy products at the beginning of 1944 amounted to 6.2 billion pounds, milk equivalent, as compared with 3.8 billion pounds on January 1, 1943. It is expected that by the end of 1944, stocks of dairy products will be reduced to about 5.2 billion pounds, milk equivalent.

The War Food Administration has recently announced the 1944 allocations of dairy products for civilian, military, lend-lease, and export purposes. It has also issued a limitation order affecting the production of cheese other than American cheddar, and has announced plans for continuation of the dairy production payments program.

The 1944 allocations are based on a milk production estimate of about 116 billion pounds, plus stocks carried over from 1943. Production on farms in 1943 was about 118 billion pounds. The per capita civilian allocations for 1944 are at about the same annual rate as consumption during the last half of 1943. Military services and lend-lease were allocated somewhat larger quantities of dairy products than they received in 1943.

The production of cheeses, such as Swiss, cream, and Italian varieties, will be limited by FDO 92. The order permits production at the level of 1942, about 10 percent less than in 1943, but otherwise the second largest on record. It is expected that production of cheddar cheese will be somewhat higher as a result of the limitation, although in some places the milk diverted from production of other cheese may be used to produce other dairy products.

The dairy production payment program, begun last October as a means of enabling dairymen to bear increases in feed and other costs, has been extended.

Fats and Oils

Supplies of butter available for civilian consumption are estimated to be somewhat larger in the first three months of 1944 than in the previous three months. The production of creamery butter has been increasing from the seasonal low point in November, and in the first quarter of 1944, it is expected to be more than 10 percent above that of the last quarter of 1943. The War Food Administration announced last fall that Government purchases of butter, which were stopped on October 1, would not be resumed before April 1. All of current production is going into civilian channels, since noncivilian requirements are being supplied from stocks. Market reports indicate, however, that the increased civilian butter supplies are still short of demand.

Civilian disappearance of margarine in October-December 1943, as measured by tax-paid withdrawals from manufacturers' hands, totaled 147 million pounds. This was only 9 percent under the peak reached in January-March 1943, when dealers increased inventories in anticipation of the beginning of rationing on March 28. Total tax-paid withdrawals of margarine in 1943 were 503 million pounds, about 38 percent more than in 1942 and 37 percent more than the average for 1935-39.

Manufacturers' quotas for the use of fats and oils in civilian margarine in October-December, at 167 percent of the average used in the same months of 1940-41, were sufficient for a maximum output of approximately 170 million pounds of margarine for civilians. With civilian disappearance some 20 million pounds less than this, civilian demand for margarine at current prices under rationing apparently was satisfied in full. In January-March 1944, manufacturers' quotas remain at 167 percent of the same months in the base-period. This would permit a maximum of about 160 million pounds of margarine for civilians. Civilian disappearance of margarine is likely to remain at a high level in January-March, but may be somewhat less than in the preceding quarter as a result of the moderately increased supply of butter.

The monthly peak in lard output for the 1943-44 season (beginning October) probably was reached in December and January. Hog-slaughtering plants were operating at or near full capacity, with 7.6 million hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection in December and 7.8 million in January. The production of federally inspected lard in December was 260 million pounds, 20 percent more than in any previous month on record. January output was 267 million pounds. Total lard production in 1944, including noninspected, may exceed 3,200 million pounds, compared with 3,050 million pounds in 1943. However, lard will be the principal fat used in 1944 to meet noncivilian requirements, and the supply available for civilian consumption in 1944 may not be greatly different from that in 1943. January 1, 1944, stocks of lard totaled 162 million pounds, 66 million pounds above the 1935-39 beginning-of-year average but 25 million pounds below the holdings at the beginning of 1942.

Fruit

Supplies of fresh citrus fruit for civilians continue to be plentiful. Early and midseason orange crops are now being marketed and the crops are running 32 percent above last season. The generally favorable growing conditions during January raised the expectations for 1943-44 total production to 100 million boxes of oranges and tangerines. This would be another record crop, 12 percent above that of 1942-43 and more than half again as much as the average annual production in 1932-41. The 1943-44 season grapefruit and lemon crops are expected to approximate last season's, which were substantially larger than average. As the result of larger orange production, the total citrus fruit production for 1943-44 is expected to be about 6 percent above that of 1942-43 and about 56 percent larger than average, 1932-41.

In contrast, civilian consumers will find the supply of apples and pears for the rest of the winter and spring considerably shorter than last year. Cold storage supplies, the principal commercial source, were estimated at 20.8 million bushels of apples and 0.7 million bushels of pears on January 1, 1944, compared with 30.6 million bushels of apples and 1.5 million bushels of pears the year before. Despite short supplies, the rail and boat commercial shipments of apples have increased since early January, but shipments will of necessity decrease considerably within the next few months.

Under Food Distribution Order 22.6, approximately 36 to 37 million cases of canned fruits and pineapple juice must be reserved for Government war purposes from the 1944 pack. This quantity is approximately 70 percent of the average packs in 1942 and 1943 of the 12 canned fruits and fruit juices included in the Order and is about 60 percent of the average packs of all canned fruits and fruit juices, with the exception of canned citrus, for the same two pack years.

With near normal growing conditions and utilization of fruit crops, the canned fruit pack in 1944, excluding fruit juices, would exceed that of 1943 by 20 to 25 percent. The increased quantities of canned fruits which must be reserved for the Government, however, would more than offset the larger pack. On the basis of such a pack and the quantity to be set aside, civilian per capita supplies of canned fruits available for consumption in 1944-45 would be only about 80 to 85 percent of the quantity consumed in 1943-44 and about three-fifths of the average quantity consumed during the 5-year period 1935-39. Civilian supplies of fruit juices, excluding citrus, in 1944-45 may be about as large as in 1943-44, but about 6 percent below the 1935-39 average. Civilian supplies of processed citrus fruits are expected to be about as large for the 1943-44 season as for 1942-43.

Vegetables

The supplies of fresh vegetables have been substantially larger this winter than a year ago. February 1 prospects indicate that the favorable supply situation will continue because winter season production of the 17 commercial truck crops is now estimated at 1,368,000 tons, a third larger than in 1943 and about 50 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The greatest increases in individual crops are expected for tomatoes (197 percent of 1943 production), cabbage (174 percent), green peas (164 percent), celery, escarole, spinach, cauliflower, kale, and beets. The artichoke and shallot crops probably will be smaller than last year.

Market supplies of snap beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, escarole, lettuce, kale, and spinach -- especially cabbage -- should be relatively plentiful during the next few weeks. Onion shipments, in contrast, are expected to continue light. Onions in storage January 1, providing about the only marketings until in April, totaled about 2.8 million sacks of 100 pounds each -- only about two-thirds the quantity in storage a year earlier. A substantial part of these stocks was being held for dehydrating or by Government agencies.

Present indications are that the supplies of fresh vegetables for the 1944 spring season also will exceed those of the corresponding 1943 season, if the weather is favorable. Plantings or intended plantings of the eight spring season truck crops already reported are 28 percent above the harvested acreage in 1943 and 13 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. Very large increases in acreage have been reported for onions and watermelons.

Principally because of expanding military needs, canners will be required to set aside a larger part of their 1944 packs of certain vegetables than they were required to set aside from 1943 packs. Under FDO 22.6 issued February 11, 1944, approximately 50 percent of the average 1942 and 1943 commercial packs of 14 vegetables and vegetable juice will be reserved for Government war uses. This order reserves for the Government a quantity equal to about 44 percent of the annual average commercial pack of all vegetables in 1942 and 1943, including bulk kraut and pickles and other vegetables not included under FDO 22.6.

Assuming that acreage goals for processing vegetables are met in 1944 and that average yields are obtained, the 1944 commercial vegetable pack would exceed that of 1943 by approximately 10 percent. Such an increase in pack, however, would be more than offset by the increased reservation for the Government. Civilian supplies available for consumption in 1944-45, on the basis of the assumptions with respect to packs and reservations, would be about 85 percent of those in 1943-44, two-thirds of those in 1942-43, and 10 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average.

Potatoes

The supply of white potatoes is still abundant. Total commercial potato stocks on January 1 were estimated to be 138 million bushels, about 35 million above the stocks on hand at the beginning of 1942 and 1943. Carlot shipments in January and February were considerably larger than a year earlier, indicating heavier marketings of the huge supply.

The early commercial white potato crop probably will be less than last year, despite a small increase in acreage, since it is unlikely that last year's high yield per acre, which was 14 percent above the 10-year average, will be achieved. The plantings of intermediate and late crop potatoes this year, according to preliminary indications, are expected to fall below the 1943 acreages. Even with these prospective reductions in acreage, the supplies of potatoes in 1944 are expected to meet consumer demand, provided yields are normal.

Wheat, Rye, Rice

The disappearance of wheat for all food uses in the first half of 1944 is expected to be about 270 million bushels, the same as in the last half of 1943. The amount used for feed will probably be much less, between 160 and 185 million bushels instead of the estimated 290 million bushels used in the previous 6-months period. Wheat stocks on January 1, 1944, totaled 810 million bushels, compared with the all-time January 1 record a year earlier of 1,158 million, and the 1935-39 average of 482 million.

The rye stocks of 37 million bushels on January 1, 1944, were 20 million below the previous year's record but 2 million above the 1938-42 average. The 1944 crop is expected to be below the 31 million bushels produced in 1943. However, supplies of rye are expected to be adequate to supply the 11 million bushels needed for food and 8 million for seed and leave quantities available for feed and industrial alcohol.

The rice goal for 1944 of 1,525,000 acres is practically unchanged from the record high acreage in 1943, and is expected to be met. With fairly constant yields per acre because of irrigation methods, the prospective crop should be large enough to provide for usual per capita domestic needs as well as to satisfy substantial foreign requirements.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF THE CIVILIAN PER CAPITA FOOD SUPPLY, 1920-43 1/

The study of trends in the nutritive value of our national diet as calculated from estimates of apparent per capita food consumption is one way of judging progress both in the production and consumption of food and in the response of consumers to nutrition education. The over-all nutritive value of the per capita food supply has shown considerable improvement in the past quarter century. Increased production and consumption of milk, citrus fruit and tomatoes, and green and yellow vegetables and the enrichment of flour and bread have been largely responsible for this improvement. In the past 2 years, produce from victory gardens has also contributed to the nutritive content of the civilian food supply. However, estimates of consumption of produce from town and city gardens are available only for the average in the years 1935-39, and for 1942 and 1943, and were therefore treated separately. (See table 5.)

This study does not attempt to inquire into the adequacy of American diets. Only average per capita estimates of the nutritive value of food (retail weight basis) as it disappears into civilian consumption channels are obtained from this type of study. No estimates of apparent consumption at different income levels, in different regions or types of community can be made because of a lack of basic data. Even though the over-all quantities of most nutrients in the per capita civilian food supply in recent years may appear to exceed or meet the recommended dietary allowances of the National Research

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1/ Prepared by Faith Clark and Faye C. Stover of the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. The nutritional evaluation was based on per capita consumption estimates supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Council, many persons fail to get adequate diets either because of low purchasing power, lack of nutrition knowledge, or both. A recent Nation-wide study 2/ indicates that as late as the spring of 1942, probably at least one-third of American families had diets low in calcium, riboflavin, or both, compared to recommendations of the National Research Council, and that smaller proportions of the families had diets low in other nutrients.

Trends Since 1920 (Town and City Gardens Excluded)

Quantities of calcium, vitamin A, ascorbic acid (vitamin C), and riboflavin in the average American diet have been gradually increasing since 1920 (see tables 3 and 4). From the early twenties to date, no pronounced trend has been noted for the other nutrients, although protein, iron, and the B-vitamins have increased almost continuously since the middle thirties. In 1942 and 1943 the flour and bread enrichment program increased the quantities of iron, thiamine, niacin, and (to a lesser extent) riboflavin available in these foods. (The consumption of synthetic vitamins other than those used in the bread and flour enrichment program is not included in this study.) In spite of the war demands on our total food production, 1943 was a high point in several respects so far as the nutritive value of our civilian food was concerned. Quantities per capita of protein, calcium, iron, thiamine, niacin, and riboflavin were the highest supplied since 1920, the first year for which sufficient records are available to make nutritive value calculations. These records, however, do not include estimates of the produce from town and city gardens. The number of calories and the amounts of vitamins A and C were slightly smaller in 1943 than in earlier years. (See table 5 for estimates including town and city garden production.) The peak year for calories was 1941; for vitamin A, 1942; and for vitamin C, 1939. Calculations based on the latest consumption estimates indicate that the number of calories available to civilians in 1943 was only 4 percent less than the number available in 1941. The reduction was largely because of decreased sugar consumption under rationing.

The number of calories in the 1943 per capita civilian food supply was 2 percent above the 1935-39 average. The only important nutrients for which smaller quantities were recorded in 1943 than in 1935-39 were vitamins A and C, and even these small differences disappear when the produce from nonfarm Victory gardens are included in the consumption estimates (see table 5). It appears then that, in spite of heavy demands on our total production of food for wartime uses, the nutritive value of our civilian food supply was as high or higher in 1943 than in 1935-39 in calories and vitamins A and C, and considerably higher in protein, the minerals, and three of the B-vitamins, namely, thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin.

2/ Family food consumption in the United States, in press, Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

The relative contribution of various groups of food to the total nutritive value of the food supply since 1920 excluding town and city gardens has remained remarkably stable for most of the nutrients presented in the charts on pages 20 through 23. The nutrients which have shown significant changes in the patterns of their sources have been vitamins A and C and thiamine. A larger proportion of the vitamin A value of the diet recently has been furnished by green and yellow vegetables, while potatoes have furnished a smaller proportion than in the earlier years covered by this study. A larger proportion of the vitamin C in American diets is now derived from citrus fruit and tomatoes than formerly, because of large increases in consumption. In 1942 and 1943, because of the enrichment program, a much larger proportion of the total thiamine in the diet was furnished by the grain products group than before this program was instituted. The actual contribution (in terms of grams of protein, for example) of those foods which have increased in per capita consumption has of course risen. In most cases the percentage contribution of the group to the total quantity of the nutrient has also increased throughout the years.

Food Groups and the Nutrients

Milk and milk products other than butter are the most important contributors to the calcium and riboflavin content of the average diet. The charts on pages 21 and 22 indicate that the milk group now contributes over three-fourths of the total calcium and almost one-half of the total riboflavin. These proportions have tended to increase as the consumption of milk has increased since 1920. The total quantity of calcium, especially in the per capita food supply, has moved upward along with the increased consumption of milk. If the consumption of other foods remains about the same, a 5-percent increase in milk consumption will bring about approximately a 4-percent increase in the national supply of food-calcium available and a 2- or 3-percent increase in the total riboflavin in foods (not counting synthetic products added).

Besides providing large proportions of the total quantities of calcium and riboflavin, milk and milk products other than butter also provided 14 percent of the total food energy (calories), 24 percent of the protein, and 19 percent of the total vitamin A value of the civilian diet in 1943 as well as smaller proportions of other nutrients.

Vegetables and fruit are the chief sources of vitamins A and C in the American diet. They also make smaller but significant contributions to the total amounts of minerals and B-vitamins. All vegetables and fruits are divided into several categories on the basis of their nutritional contributions and use in the diet. The green and yellow vegetables are grouped together because they are good sources of vitamin A. They contribute about one-fifth of the total vitamin A consumed. Citrus fruit and tomatoes are grouped together because they are good sources of vitamin C. In 1943 this group contributed 29 percent of the total vitamin C value of food brought into kitchens. Because citrus fruit especially is usually eaten raw and therefore its vitamin C content is not destroyed by cooking, the relative contribution of this group may be underestimated here.

Dry mature beans and peas and nuts are grouped together because they are high-calorie and -protein foods and are also good sources of the minerals and B-vitamins. Since they are eaten in relatively small quantities compared to other food groups, their contributions to the various nutrients as shown on the charts do not appear to be very large. They contain little or no vitamin A or vitamin C, and in the charts for other nutrients are included in "all vegetables and fruits."

Potatoes and sweetpotatoes are grouped together because they are used in like manner in the housewife's menus. Sweetpotatoes, however, are a rich source of vitamin A value and make practically all of this group's contribution of 13 percent to the total vitamin A value of the diet. The potato group, when valued on the raw basis, contributed in 1943 almost one-fifth of the total vitamin C in the per capita food supply. Because vitamin C is easily destroyed in cooking, and potatoes are always eaten cooked in contrast to some of the other vegetables and fruits, the contribution of potatoes and sweetpotatoes may be slightly exaggerated here. Even so, potatoes make an important contribution to the total quantities of vitamin C as well as of the minerals and other vitamins.

The group "other vegetables and fruit" includes such vegetables as beets, celery, onions, and turnips and such fruits as apples, peaches, pears, grapes, and all the dried fruits. This group does not make any outstanding contribution to any one nutrient but is still an important source of vitamins A and C in the quantities in which they are consumed in the American diet.

Since 1920 the most noticeable trend in the contribution of any one of these food groups has been the increasing amount of vitamin C derived from citrus fruit and tomatoes. In 1920, from citrus fruits and tomatoes came 16 percent of all the vitamin C then available in the per capita food supply; by 1943 that figure had jumped to 29 percent. This increase is not surprising since the per capita consumption of citrus fruit and tomatoes has increased about 80 percent in the 24-year period. The per capita quantity of citrus fruit available in 1943 was more than double that for 1920. Although vitamin C shows more variation year by year than any of the other nutrients, its trend is less variable than the per capita consumption of citrus fruit and tomatoes because, of course, other foods also contribute to the total vitamin C in the diet. Green and yellow vegetables, and other vegetables and fruit, have provided fairly constant proportions of the total -- about 28 and 17 percent respectively -- throughout the last 24 years although both groups provided somewhat smaller quantities during 1943 because of decreased civilian consumption of these two food groups. The contribution of the potato group to the total vitamin C had been steadily decreasing until the larger potato consumption in 1943 halted the trend.

Green and yellow vegetables have been contributing increasingly larger proportions of the total vitamin A value. In 1920, the contribution was 17 percent and in 1943 it was 23 percent. A 16-percent increase in the consumption of green and yellow vegetables along with larger quantities of milk and citrus fruit and tomatoes, has resulted in an 8-percent increase since 1920 in the total vitamin A value of the per capita civilian food supply. Potatoes (largely sweetpotatoes) furnished a high of 22 percent of the total vitamin A value in 1920 and a low of 10 percent in 1940.

Eggs are relatively good sources of protein, iron, vitamin A, and riboflavin. They provided between 5 and 12 percent of these nutrients in this country during the years studied.

Meat, poultry, and fish are sometimes erroneously though of as the only source of protein in the diet. Although this group is the chief source of animal protein, it contributes approximately the same proportion of total protein as does the grain-products group. Largely because pork is a good source of thiamine, the meat, poultry, fish group and the bacon and salt pork from the fat group together have provided in the past about one-half of the total thiamine in the average diet. Although the absolute amount of thiamine derived from these foods has not decreased, the proportion of the total has decreased to a little over a third in 1943, because the enrichment of flour and bread has increased the amount of thiamine contributed by the grain-products group. The meat, poultry, fish, and the fat groups have also provided approximately 60 percent of the total niacin and 30 percent of the total iron content of the food supply during the years studied. The contribution of the meat, poultry, and fish group to the vitamin A value of the food supply is largely due to the consumption of liver.

Fats and oils (including butter, bacon, salt pork) make their chief contribution to the diet in the form of food energy (calories). During the 1930's and 40's, this group provided about one-fifth of the total calories, and in the 1920's, slightly smaller proportions. As stated earlier, the fatty cuts of pork (bacon and salt pork) also contribute some protein, iron, thiamine, and niacin, although only about 2 percent of the total, except for thiamine, where the percentage runs as high as 4 percent when calculated on the raw basis. The contribution of approximately one-tenth of the total vitamin A by the fats and oils group is made chiefly by butter and by fortified margarine.

Grain products provide a larger share of the total food energy in the per capita food supply than any other group. The percentage, however, has gradually decreased from 32 percent in 1920 to 27 percent in 1943. As mentioned earlier, grain products are also important sources of protein. The percentage contribution of grain products to the total protein consumption has decreased to about the same extent as in the case of food energy. Consumption of grain products is estimated to have decreased about 12 percent since 1920, thus accounting for the smaller nutritional contribution of the group.

Grain products are also relatively important sources of iron, thiamine, and niacin. Because of the enrichment of flour and bread in 1942 and 1943, this group's contribution to the nutritive value of the diet has materially increased. The proportion of the total amount of thiamine derived from grain products increased from 13 percent in 1941, to 22 percent in 1942, and to 30 percent in 1943. Smaller increases were calculated for iron, riboflavin, and niacin.

Sugar and sirups provide little but food energy to the nutritive value of the diet. Because of the decreased sugar consumption during the war, the contribution of this group (largely refined sugar) to the total food energy of the average diet has decreased from about 16 percent during the 1920's and 30's to 13 percent in 1943. Some "sirups" such as molasses provide small quantities of some of the minerals.

Table 3.- Relative nutritive value of the per capita civilian food supply
(excluding nutrients obtained from town and city garden produce)
United States, 1920-43 1/
(1935-39 = 100)

Year	Food energy	Pro-tein	Fat	Car-bohy-drate	Cal-cium	Phos-phorus	Iron	Vitamin A value	Ascor-bic Acid (Vita-min C)	Thia-mine (Vita-min B1)	Ribo-flavin	Niaci
1920	98	100	89	104	86	94	100	90	92	101	93	103
1921	96	99	88	101	85	93	97	88	82	100	91	99
1922	102	102	92	110	87	97	102	96	91	105	95	106
1923	102	105	97	105	89	98	103	94	88	109	97	109
1924	104	106	98	107	91	99	104	91	91	110	99	110
1925	102	103	97	106	91	97	101	88	84	103	96	103
1926	103	103	96	108	91	98	101	91	87	102	98	104
1927	104	103	98	108	92	99	103	94	92	106	98	105
1928	105	103	98	110	92	99	103	93	90	109	98	105
1929	102	102	98	106	93	99	102	96	93	107	98	102
1930	104	102	100	107	95	100	102	93	87	106	99	101
1931	102	102	102	103	95	101	103	99	96	108	101	104
1932	100	101	100	100	95	99	100	99	95	108	98	102
1933	99	100	100	97	94	97	102	96	91	106	97	102
1934	99	100	100	98	93	97	99	97	94	103	96	102
1935	98	98	94	100	98	98	99	100	99	95	96	96
1936	100	100	100	100	98	99	99	96	93	98	99	100
1937	100	101	100	100	100	101	101	100	98	100	101	101
1938	100	101	100	99	101	100	100	100	102	101	101	100
1939	102	103	105	100	103	103	103	101	106	106	104	104
1940	103	105	108	100	103	103	105	100	103	110	105	107
1941	106	107	108	104	106	105	105	100	104	107	106	108
1942	103	107	106	101	109	107	107	103	103	116	108	109
1943	102	109	106	98	114	109	113	97	99	136	117	117
1942 2/	103	107	106	101	109	107	106	103	103	106	108	108
1943 2/	102	109	106	98	114	109	106	97	99	110	113	109

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on basis of food consumption estimates supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

2/ Without enrichment.

Table 4.- Average quantities of nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day (excluding nutrients obtained from town and city garden produce) uncooked basis 1/, United States, 1920-43

Year	Food energy	Protein	Fat	Carbohydrate	Calcium	Phosphorus	Iron	Vitamin A value	Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C)	Thiamine (Vitamin B_1)	Riboflavin	Niacin
	Calories	Grams	Grams	Grams	Grams	Grams	Milligrams	International units	Milligrams	Milligrams	Milligrams	Milligrams
1920	3,170	88	117	442	0.76	1.39	13.8	6,000	89	1.78	1.84	18.2
1921	3,110	87	116	430	.75	1.37	13.4	5,900	80	1.76	1.80	17.5
1922	3,320	90	121	468	.77	1.43	14.1	6,400	88	1.84	1.89	18.6
1923	3,310	92	128	447	.78	1.45	14.2	6,300	85	1.92	1.92	19.1
1924	3,380	93	130	458	.80	1.47	14.4	6,100	88	1.94	1.96	19.3
1925	3,320	91	128	453	.80	1.44	13.9	5,900	81	1.82	1.91	18.2
1926	3,350	91	127	461	.80	1.45	14.0	6,100	84	1.80	1.94	18.3
1927	3,380	91	129	462	.81	1.47	14.2	6,300	89	1.87	1.94	18.4
1928	3,410	91	129	470	.81	1.47	14.2	6,200	87	1.91	1.94	18.4
1929	3,330	90	130	451	.82	1.47	14.1	6,400	90	1.89	1.94	17.9
1930	3,370	90	132	455	.84	1.48	14.1	6,200	84	1.86	1.97	17.8
1931	3,330	90	134	440	.84	1.49	14.2	6,600	93	1.90	1.99	18.3
1932	3,250	89	132	426	.84	1.46	13.8	6,600	92	1.90	1.95	18.0
1933	3,210	88	132	416	.83	1.44	14.1	6,400	88	1.86	1.93	18.0
1934	3,210	88	132	417	.82	1.44	13.7	6,500	91	1.81	1.91	18.0
1935	3,180	86	124	429	.86	1.45	13.6	6,700	96	1.68	1.91	16.9
1936	3,250	88	132	426	.86	1.47	13.6	6,400	90	1.72	1.96	17.6
1937	3,250	89	132	427	.88	1.49	13.9	6,700	95	1.76	2.00	17.7
1938	3,240	89	132	424	.89	1.48	13.8	6,700	99	1.77	2.00	17.6
1939	3,330	91	139	428	.91	1.52	14.2	6,800	103	1.86	2.05	18.3
1940	3,350	92	142	427	.91	1.53	14.5	6,700	100	1.93	2.07	18.9
1941	3,450	94	143	446	.93	1.56	14.5	6,700	101	1.89	2.09	19.0
1942	3,360	94	140	430	.96	1.58	14.8	6,900	100	2.05	2.14	19.2
1943	3,320	96	140	418	1.00	1.62	15.6	6,500	96	2.40	2.31	20.6
1942 2/	3,360	94	140	430	.96	1.58	14.6	6,900	100	1.87	2.14	19.0
1943 2/	3,320	96	140	418	1.00	1.62	14.6	6,500	96	1.94	2.23	19.1
1935-39	3,250	88	132	427	.88	1.48	13.8	6,700	97	1.76	1.98	17.6

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on the basis of estimates of apparent civilian food consumption (retail basis) supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

2/ Without enrichment.

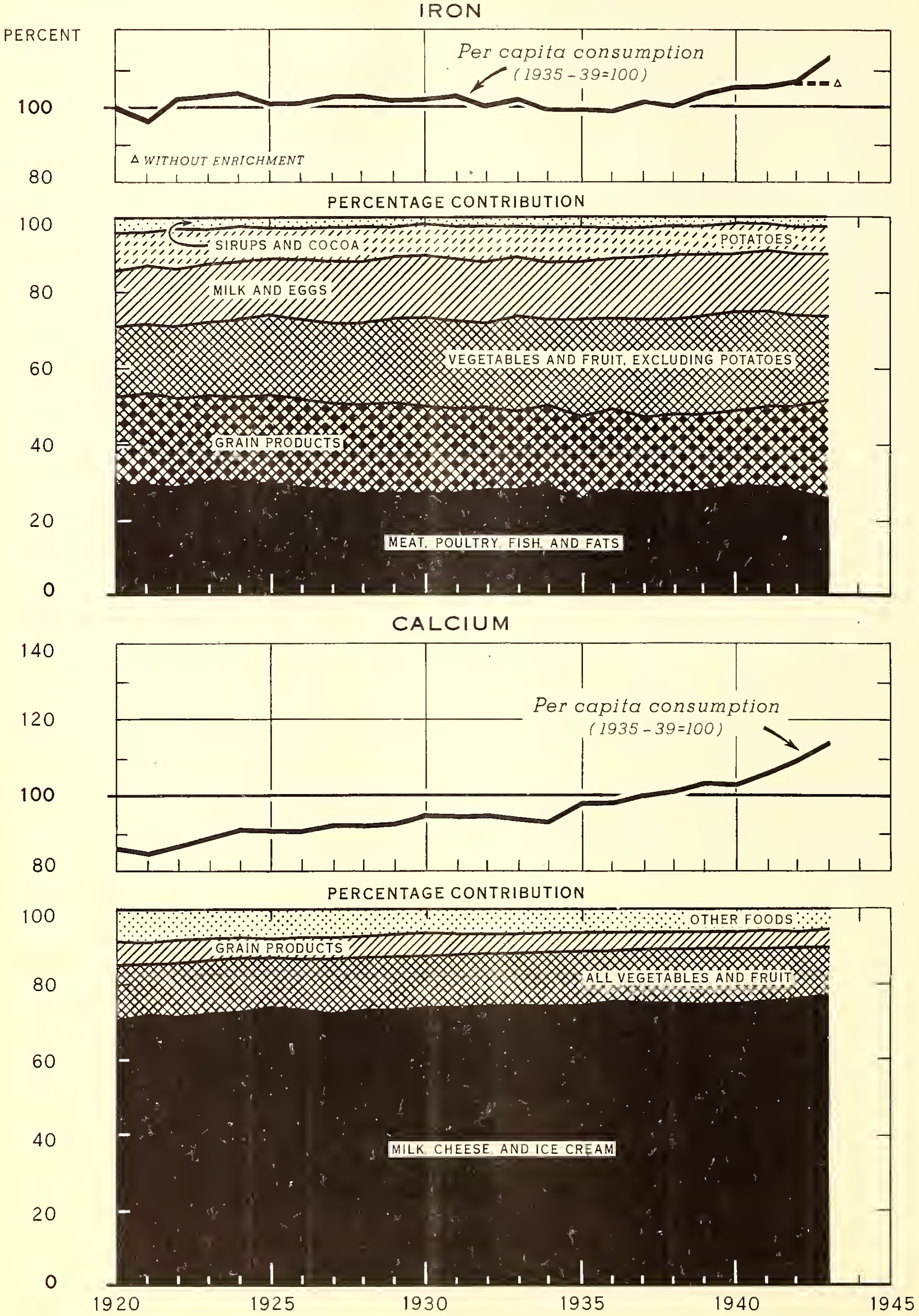
Table 5.- Average and relative quantities of nutrients available for civilian consumption per capita per day (including nutrients obtained from town and city garden produce), uncooked basis, United States, 1935-39 average, 1942 and 1943 1/

Year	Food energy	Protein	Fat	Carbohydrate	Calcium	Phosphorus	Iron	Vitamin A value	Ascorbic acid (Vitamin C)	Thiamine (Vitamin B_1)	Riboflavin	Niacin
	Calories	Grams	Grams	Grams	Grams	Grams	Milligrams	International units	Milligrams	Milligrams	Milligrams	Milligrams
	Average quantities											
Average 1935-39	3,260	89	132	428	.88	1.49	13.9	6,800	100	1.77	1.99	17.7
1942	3,370	94	140	432	.96	1.59	14.9	7,000	103	2.06	2.15	19.3
1943	3,330	97	140	422	1.01	1.64	15.9	7,000	104	2.43	2.33	20.8
1942 2/	3,370	94	140	422	.96	1.59	14.7	7,000	103	1.89	2.15	19.1
1943 2/	3,330	97	140	422	1.01	1.64	14.9	7,000	104	1.97	2.25	19.4
	Relative quantities 1935-39 = 100											
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Average 1935-39	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1942	103	106	106	101	109	107	107	103	103	116	108	109
1943	102	109	106	99	115	110	114	103	104	137	117	118
1942 2/	103	106	106	99	109	107	106	103	103	107	108	108
1943 2/	102	109	106	99	115	110	107	103	104	111	113	110

1/ Data computed by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics on basis of food consumption estimates supplied by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

2/ Without enrichment.

TRENDS IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF NUTRIENTS BY CIVILIANS AND PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MAJOR FOOD GROUPS TO THE NUTRIENTS, UNITED STATES, 1920-43*



*EXCLUDES NUTRIENTS OBTAINED FROM TOWN AND CITY GARDEN PRODUCE

DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

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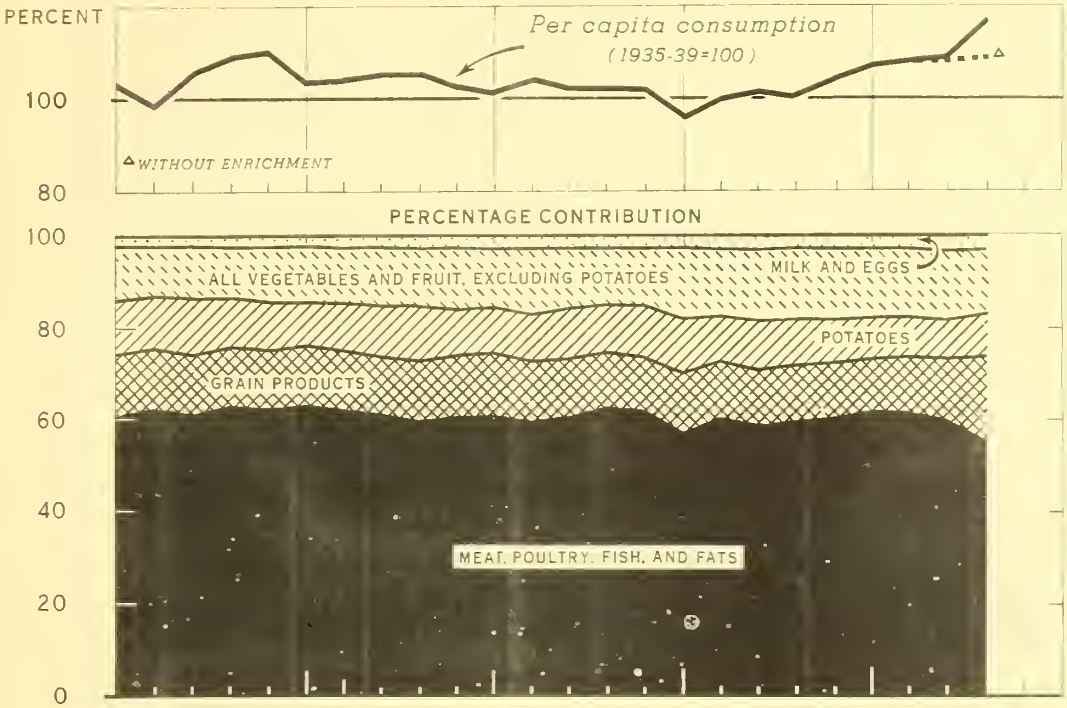
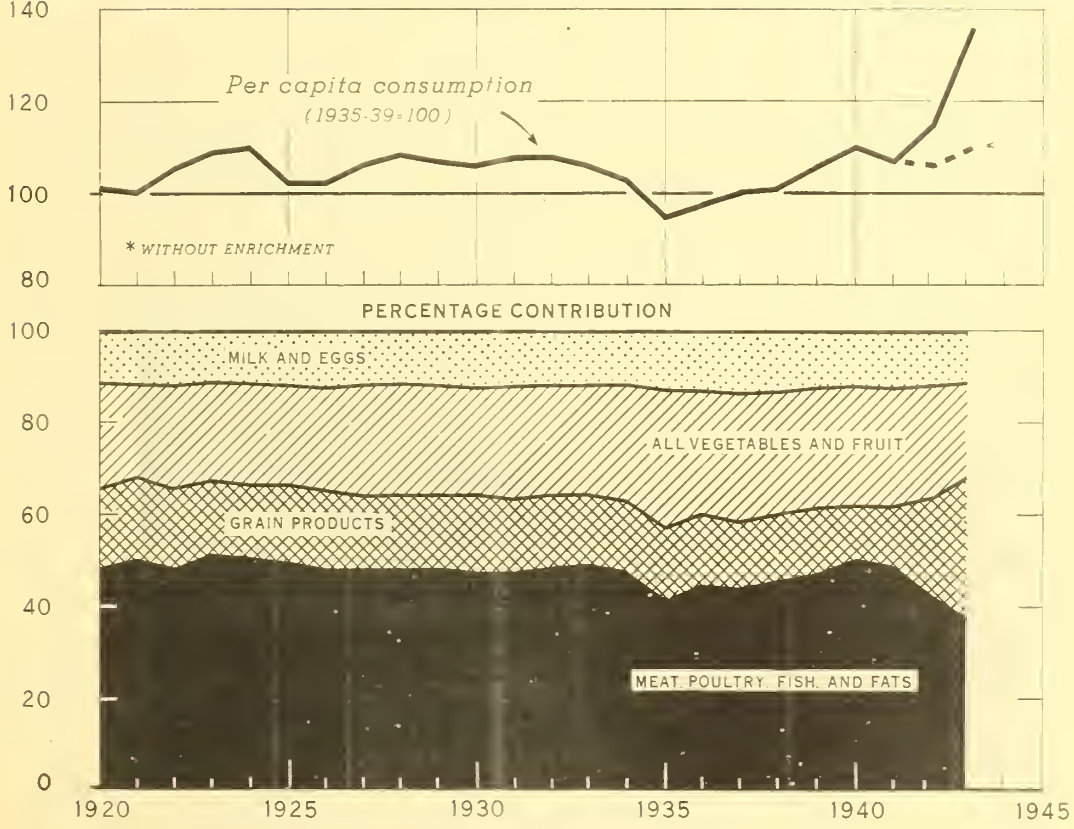
TRENDS IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF NUTRIENTS BY CIVILIANS AND PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MAJOR FOOD GROUPS TO THE NUTRIENTS, UNITED STATES, 1920-43*

NIACIN



VITAMIN B_1 (THIAMINE)



*EXCLUDES NUTRIENTS OBTAINED FROM TOWN AND CITY GARDEN PRODUCE

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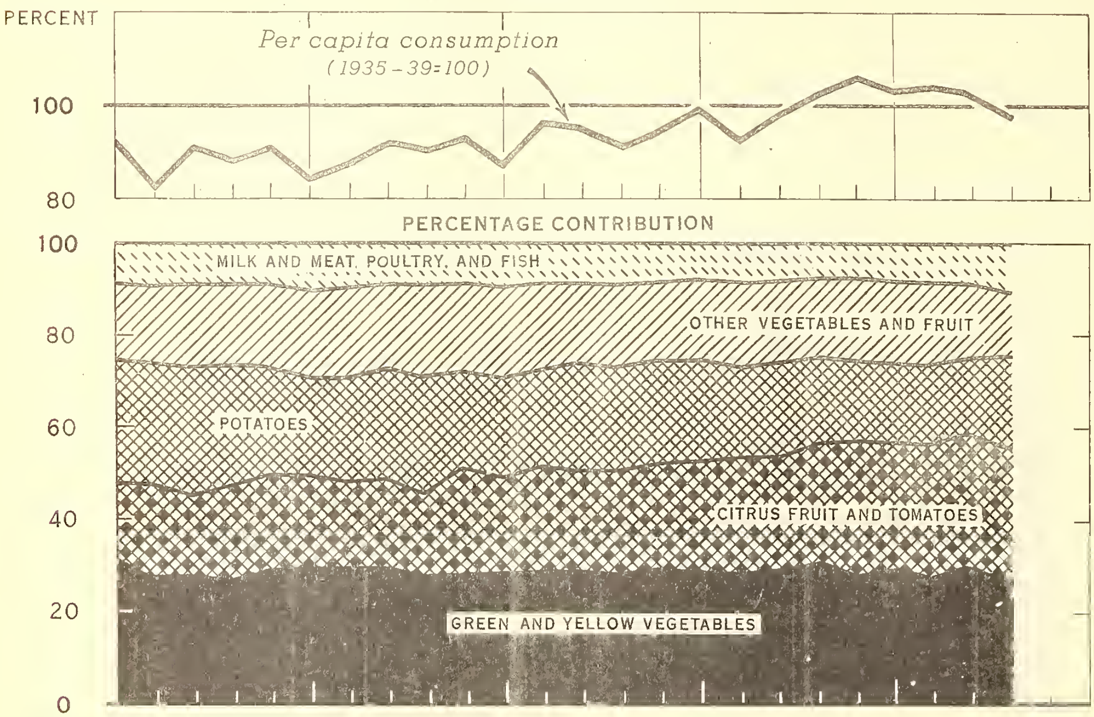
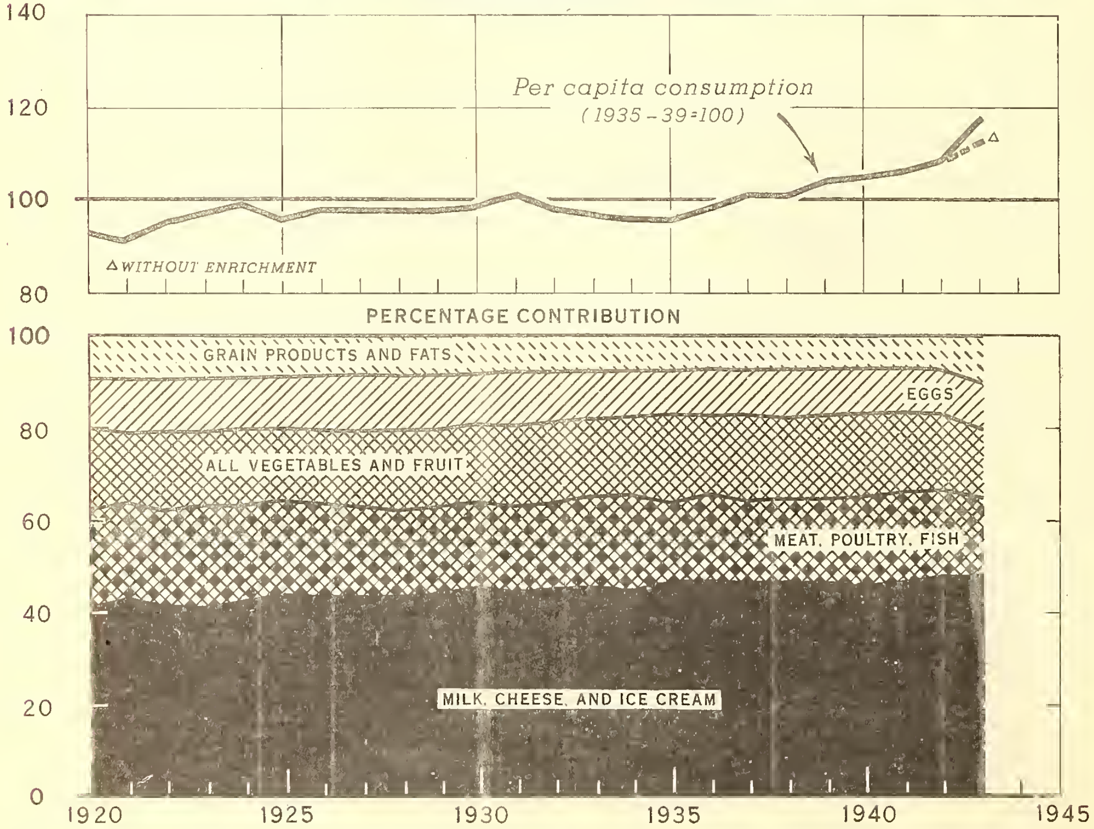
TRENDS IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF NUTRIENTS BY CIVILIANS AND PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MAJOR FOOD GROUPS TO THE NUTRIENTS, UNITED STATES, 1920-43*

ASCORBIC ACID



RIBOFLAVIN



*EXCLUDES NUTRIENTS OBTAINED FROM TOWN AND CITY GARDEN PRODUCE

DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

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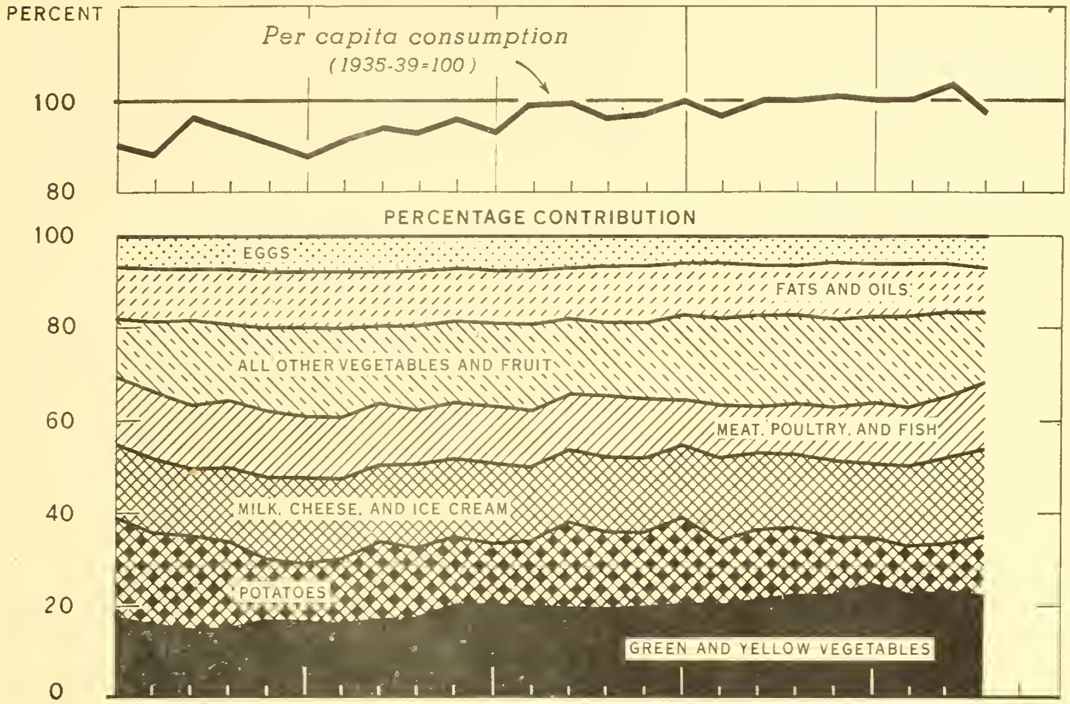
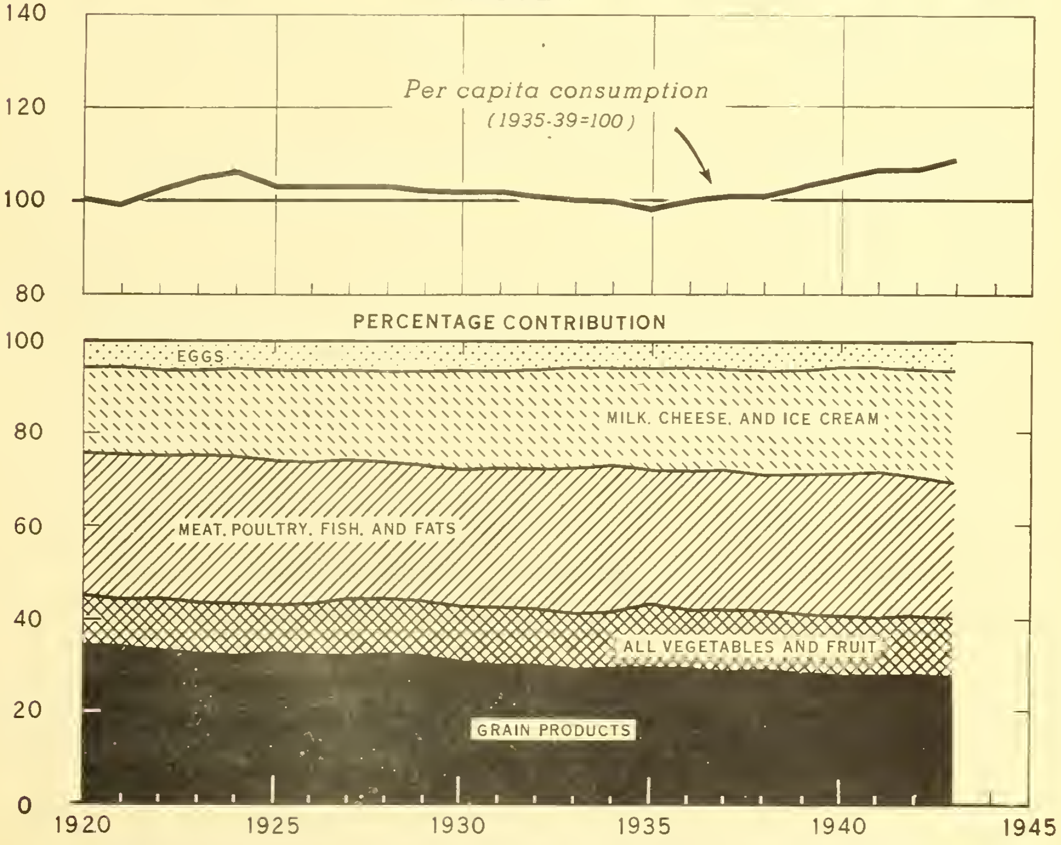
TRENDS IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF NUTRIENTS BY CIVILIANS AND PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION OF MAJOR FOOD GROUPS TO THE NUTRIENTS, UNITED STATES, 1920-43*

VITAMIN A



PROTEIN



*EXCLUDES NUTRIENTS OBTAINED FROM TOWN AND CITY GARDEN PRODUCE

DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

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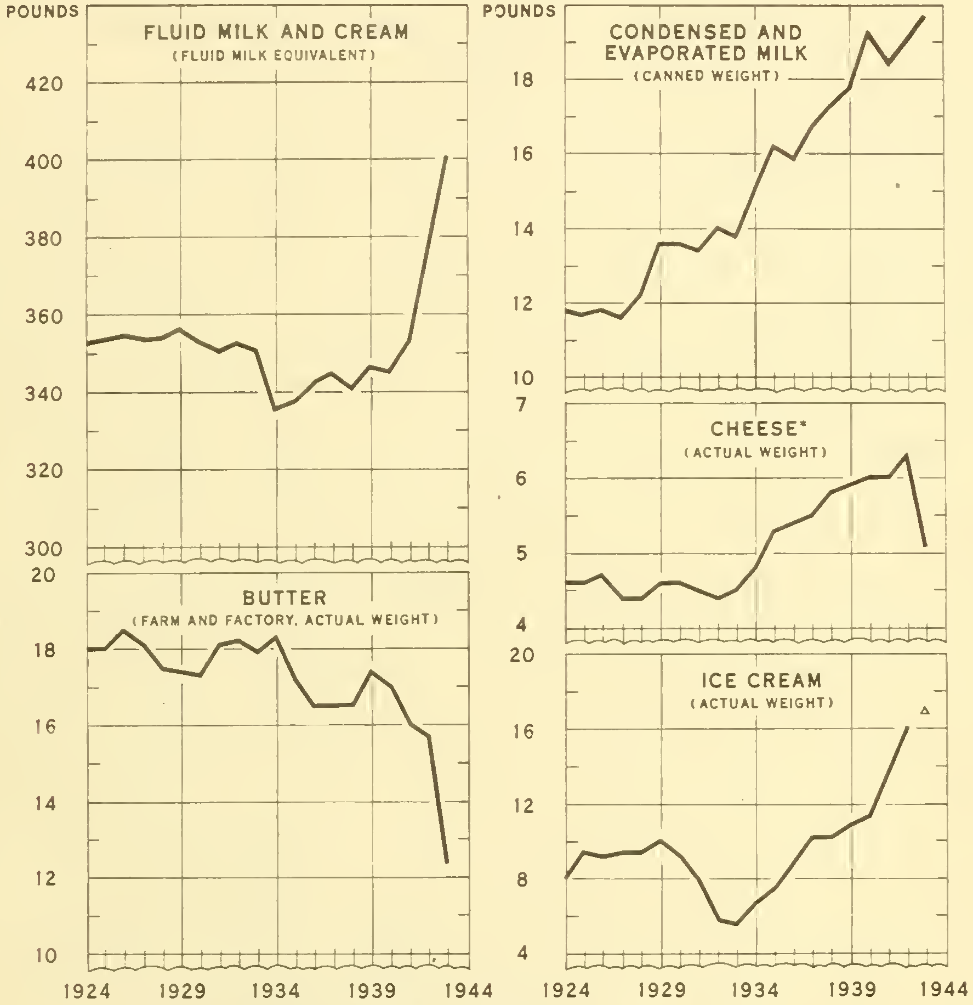
NFS-14 BAE MARCH 1944

PER CAPITA CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION OF PRINCIPAL DAIRY PRODUCTS, UNITED STATES, 1924-43



** EXCLUDES FULL SKIM AMERICAN, COTTAGE, POT, AND BAKERS' CHEESE*
DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY *Δ NOT AVAILABLE*

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43535 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

There has been a general upward trend in the past 20 years in the per capita consumption of the principal dairy products, except butter. During the depression years, the consumption of fluid milk and cream and ice cream declined. The great increase in the consumption of these products since 1941 reflects accelerated demand because of higher incomes, the relative scarcity of other foods, and developing consciousness of the nutritive value of milk. The consumption of cheese, condensed and evaporated milk increased considerably from 1924 to 1943.

Over the twenty year period, butter consumption shows a downward trend, with a considerable drop in 1943 as the result of a smaller carry-over at the beginning of the year, decreased production, and heavy war requirements.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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The Production and Consumption of Dairy Products, 1924-43	12

Summary

Civilian supplies of most foods during the first 3 months of 1944 have been at high levels for this time of the year. In the April-June quarter supplies of some of the more important foods are expected to be seasonally smaller than in the previous quarter, but still will be as large or larger than average supplies in the same months last year.

Supplies of meat, eggs, citrus fruits, winter vegetables, and lard available to civilians have been relatively large during the past 3 months, primarily as the result of record seasonal production and, to some extent, storage capacity limitations. Potatoes, margarine, and grain products have been abundant in relation to consumer demand. Civilian consumption of dairy products has continued at the same rate as last fall, which was high for fluid milk but relatively low for the manufactured dairy products. Although poultry supplies have been large for this time of year, they have not been adequate to meet the demand at ceiling prices. Supplies of apples and pears have been low as the result of smaller stocks remaining from last year's below average crops.

Civilian meat consumption is expected to be slightly smaller seasonally in the coming quarter than in the first quarter of the year, although above the April-June 1943 average. Citrus fruits, margarine, lard, eggs, spring vegetables, potatoes, and grain products probably will remain in relatively

abundant supply. Civilian supplies of butter and cheese will be larger than in the January through March period. Evaporated milk supplies are expected to continue at the present level.

Freezer storage facilities are being used to capacity to store a greater volume of food than during the peak period of 1943, at which time warehousemen handled a larger volume than in the peak periods of 1937-42. Occupancy of freezer space has averaged around 90 percent for the last 5 months, compared with an average of 73 percent for the same period a year earlier. The occupancy of cooler space on March 1 was 73 percent of capacity, whereas on March 1, 1943 it was 57 percent of capacity. At the seasonal peak last fall, 77 percent of cooler capacity was occupied. In the next few months when production of some foods is seasonally lower civilians will benefit from the record holdings since the largest portion of the total quantity of food in cold storage now is privately held in regular commercial channels for civilian use.

According to the Prospective Plantings Report of March 1, farmers indicated that they intend to plant a larger total acreage of specified food and feed crops this year than they planted last year. (See table 1.) Prospective acreages of feed crops and spring wheat are somewhat larger than those planted in 1943. Indicated acreages of rice, sweetpotatoes, soybeans, and sugar beets are approximately the same as last year, but the acreages of potatoes, dry edible beans and peas, and peanuts are smaller. The total acreage contemplated for these food and feed crops is 10 percent larger than the average planted in 1935-39.

The intended acreages of the food and feed crops for which goals were established by the War Food Administration, and which are included in the Prospective Plantings Report, are in total 2 percent below these goals. Among the feed crops, the prospective acreage of oats is considerably above the goal, corn acreage about the same, and barley, flaxseed, and tame hay below the goals. With respect to food crops, farmers intend to plant as many acres of rice, but fewer acres of potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans and peas, peanuts, and sugar beets, than were asked for by the War Food Administration.

In the past, these prospective acreages agreed in many cases with acreages actually planted. However, changes from March 1 intentions can be and are often made before planting time. (See table 2.)

-- March 25, 1944

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meat

Average per capita civilian meat consumption in the first 3 months of this year is at a rate above last year and even greater than the high rate in the first quarter of 1941 which was the highest in recent years. The original allocation of meat to civilians for the January-March period was at the annual rate of 141 pounds per capita but a later emergency allocation increased the annual rate to about 158 pounds per capita for the first quarter only. The current high civilian consumption is the result of several factors that hinder the leveling out of civilian consumption over the year. The production of beef, veal, and pork has been unusually large in the first quarter of 1944. Noncivilian buying has been heavy and the into-storage movement has been large. As the result of the limited shipping space and storage facilities, a large part of the increased supply has gone into civilian channels. However, later in the year, smaller total meat production than the rate in the first quarter and large noncivilian takings are expected to bring the average per capita civilian consumption for the year as a whole slightly above the 1943 consumption rate.

Hog slaughter in the first quarter of 1944 is at an all-time high level, considerably above last year. Marketings are expected to decline in April but probably will increase during May and June when the 1943 fall pig crop, which is estimated to be 10 percent above the previous record crop of 1942, is marketed in its greatest volume. Throughout the period April-September, hog slaughter by slaughterers of all types probably will be materially greater than during the same period in 1943.

Federally inspected cattle slaughter in January and February was 23 percent greater than a year earlier, and March slaughter is expected to be greater than in the same month last year. Present indications are that the total slaughter of cattle in the first 9 months of 1944 will exceed the January-September 1943 slaughter. Calf slaughter under Federal inspection in the first quarter of 1944 was about one-third greater than in the first quarter of 1943, and is expected to remain relatively high for the remainder of the year.

The early spring lamb crop, which constitutes about 15-20 percent of the total lamb crop, is indicated to be 6 percent less this year than last and the smallest in at least 8 years. Slaughter lambs of this crop are largely marketed in May and June. With an average number of lambs saved per 100 ewes, the total lamb crop (combined early and late) would be slightly less than in 1943.

Army procurement of beef will be aided by FDO 75.2, Amendment 7, issued February 23, 1944, and effective April 1. For the first time, the Federal inspection of beef slaughtering operations of wholesale-size plants producing beef meeting Army specifications is mandatory. Cattle slaughterers of this category are required to set aside specified percentages of their slaughter for Army purchase.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilian consumption of eggs in March apparently is continuing at a higher level than a year ago, and more of the total output is now going into storage and dried egg production than in the previous 2 months. The increased consumption during the first 2 months of 1944 was greater than would normally be accounted for by the slightly lower retail prices and reflects a new record high in civilian demand for eggs. Egg production in early March this year showed only a slight increase over the corresponding period in 1943 while production in January and February was 16 to 17 percent greater than last year and was far above pre-war production for the same months. Production in these 2 months exceeded current retail sales and resulted in the accumulation of greater stocks than could be held in storage. With supplies during March apparently in excess of demand, retail prices dropped below ceilings in most areas.

Civilian demand for poultry at ceiling prices is still much greater than supply although current marketings of chickens by farmers continue larger than a year ago. Marketings by farmers this year are in about the same proportion to the number of chickens on farms as last year. The short supply situation is being eased by the release to civilians of storage poultry which had been set aside under FDO-91. A net out-of-storage movement began in mid-February, but the reduction in cold-storage stocks of poultry from February 1 to March 1, 1944, was only 8 percent compared with 28 percent last year. Stocks of poultry in storage on March 1, 1944, amounted to 220 million pounds, 118 million pounds more than March 1, 1943, stocks.

Dairy Products

There has been little change in the civilian dairy supply situation since last fall. Under WFA allocations of a slightly smaller total milk supply, civilian consumption of most dairy products in 1944 will remain at about the same rate as in the last half of 1943. During the January through March period, civilian supplies of butter were larger and more evenly distributed than in the same quarter of 1943. In the second quarter of 1944, civilian supplies of butter and cheddar cheese will be larger than in the first quarter. The larger civilian butter supply resulted from the fact that the WFA has sufficient butter, acquired from last year's production, to meet part of the United States military needs, and all Lend-Lease needs (mainly for the Russians) at least during April. The set aside order on butter for April is 10 percent compared with 30 percent last April. The production of manufactured dairy products in January, including butter, increased more than seasonally over December to January, but most products were still below last year's levels. Butter production was about 14 percent lower in January than a year earlier. Production of evaporated milk was down 5 percent and American cheese was down 3 percent. The output of other cheese increased 13 percent, and dried whole milk production, amounting to 14 million pounds, was the second highest ever attained in 1 month.

The price-support program for milk and dairy products for the rest of 1944 was announced by the War Food Administration on March 4 as part of the Government's program to maintain milk production and thereby civilian supply. By establishing minimum returns per hundredweight of milk and butterfat for 1944, the Government has furnished dairy farmers with a basis for their plans for the size of their herds and their production of feed during 1944. The number of milk cows and heifers 2 years old and over on farms on January 1, 1944, was the largest on record. It is probable that fewer heifer calves will be saved this year than last year because the cost of feed required to raise a heifer has increased relative to the value of cows. However, the percentage of cows and heifers culled this year may well be less than in 1943 because the value of cows for beef relative to the value of cows for milk production probably will continue lower than last year.

The WFA announced a limitation order restricting domestic sales of dried milk products. Production and distribution of bulk condensed whole and skim milk and dried buttermilk and whey continue to be unregulated. Civilian consumption of dried whole milk has become important only in the last 10 years, during which time the amount consumed has doubled although it still represents only a small part of total dairy products. Most of the dried whole milk is used industrially in the preparation of other foods, such as bakery products.

Fats and Oils

Supplies of most fats and oils available for civilians have been moderately larger in the first quarter of 1944 than they were in the last quarter of 1943. Seasonal increases in butter production, no Government purchases, and scarcity of storage space during the quarter have resulted in a larger supply. However, supply is still below civilian demand. January disappearance of margarine for civilian consumption, as measured by tax paid withdrawals from manufacturers, was 45 million pounds, 4 million pounds more than in December 1943, but 5 million pounds below the monthly average for October-December 1943. The ration values of both butter and margarine were kept at their previous levels during March while no ration points were required for lard because of abundant supplies. The difference between ration points required for margarine and lard may have resulted in some substitution of lard for margarine in cooking and thus may have contributed to the decrease in the demand for margarine.

The original allocation of 156 million pounds of lard and rendered pork fat for civilian food use in March was increased 50 million pounds and the ration point value set at zero because of record lard production and the crowding of storage space. The present large supply of lard compared with the quantities originally allocated probably will not continue, since the production of lard is expected to be materially smaller in the April-June quarter than in January-March. Despite abundant supplies during the past 3 months, prices of lard in major wholesale markets have remained at ceilings.

Fruit

Civilian supplies of fresh citrus fruits during the early spring are expected to be larger than last year. Growing conditions for citrus fruit continued generally favorable during February. The 1943-44 production of oranges and tangerines probably will exceed 100 million boxes, a new record. However, present indications are that the grapefruit and California lemon crops will fall slightly short of last year's large crops, although much larger than average. Rail and boat shipments of citrus fruit have been heavy, and processing of part of the crops is now well advanced after a slow start.

Consumption of apples and pears has continued at such a high rate in proportion to the low stocks that there will be few if any apples and pears available in May and June.

Vegetables

Supplies of fresh market truck crops during the next few months are expected to continue relatively abundant. Snap beans, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, celery, lettuce, and spinach, particularly, should be plentiful. In early March, shipments of truck crops by rail and boat were running about 40 percent higher than a year earlier. Total production of truck crops during the winter season (marketed largely from January through March) now is estimated at 1,394,000 tons, 36 percent above that of the 1943 winter season and 52 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Prospective supplies of vegetables from the 1944 spring season crops also are expected to be larger than last year's. Reports available thus far on acreages planted in spring season truck crops show a 26 percent increase over the acreages harvested in 1943. The prospective spring acreage of onions is double that of 1943, and the spring acreage of lettuce is about a fourth larger.

The spinach crop in California and Texas for processing is indicated at 67,400 tons, 66 percent larger than in 1943. Intentions to plant reports indicate 497,400 acres of green peas for processing -- 2.5 percent larger than last year's and 49 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. This acreage, assuming abandonment and yields approximating the 1938-42 average, would produce a crop about 3 percent larger than that harvested last year. Preliminary indications are that the tonnage of asparagus for processing probably will not differ greatly from that of last season.

Potatoes

Continuing abundant supplies of Irish potatoes are in prospect for the next few months in contrast to the acute shortage which developed about this time a year ago. Large commercial stocks (77 million bushels) of the 1943 late crop potatoes remained in storage March 1. In addition, a record or near record large production of commercial early potatoes appears probable. The acreage in the commercial early producing areas is indicated to total 396,700 acres -- 6 percent larger than last year's harvested acreage and 26 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. With average yields, production from this acreage would total about 63.4 million bushels, or 1.6 million bushels above the large commercial early potato crop of last year.

In contrast to the increased acreage indicated for commercial early potatoes this year compared with last, total plantings for the year are planned by farmers at present (March 1) at 3,180,000 acres or 7 percent below last year. This acreage is slightly larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Decreases in acreage in 1944 compared with 1943 are indicated for 33 of the 37 late and intermediate producing States. Prospective plantings in the 18 surplus late States total 9.3 percent below those of 1943. If yields in 1944 are about average (1937-41), the prospective acreage would produce a crop of approximately 410 million bushels. Production in the United States in 1943, when a record high yield was obtained, totaled 464.7 million bushels.

Sweetpotatoes

Intentions-to-plant reports for sweetpotatoes indicate prospective plantings of 901,500 acres for 1944. This acreage is slightly larger than last year's, and is 13 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. If yields in each State equal the 5-year (1937-41) average, the prospective acreage would produce about 75 million bushels or a crop 4 percent larger than that of 1943. Marketings of sweetpotatoes must continue to come from the 1943 crop until July.

Dry Edible Beans and Peas

Farmers intend to plant 2,528,000 acres to dry edible beans in 1944, according to the Prospective Plantings Report of March 1. This acreage is 7.5 percent less than the 2,734,000 acres planted in 1943, but more than in any previous year. Slight increases are indicated for New York and Michigan but large decreases for the Western States as a whole. Production on the prospective acreage at the 5-year (1938-42) average yields per State would be approximately 22 million bags of beans (100 lbs. each, uncleaned). Such a crop would be about the same in size as the 1943 crop but nearly one and one-half times the 10-year (1933-42) average.

Growers in the 9 States now producing dry edible field peas indicate as of March 1 that they will plant 771,000 acres to this crop in 1944. Such an acreage would be 7.3 percent less than the acreage planted in 1943, but nearly 2-1/2 times the 10-year (1933-42) average. The indicated decrease is mainly in Washington and Idaho, where last year about four-fifths of the total acreage was planted. The prospective acreage at the 5-year (1938-42) average State yields would result in a crop of about 8 million bags of peas (100 lb. bags, uncleaned). Production in 1943, when yields were well above average, was 10,870,000 bags.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

The prospective planted acreage of spring wheat is 19.8 million acres, 15 percent above last year and about equal to the 1933-42 average. Such an acreage, together with the winter wheat seedings of 47.1 million acres, reported in December, add up to a total of 66.9 million. This is 21 percent above the acreage last year, the largest since 1938, and approximately meets the 1944 acreage goal. Assuming spring wheat yields per planted acre equal to those of the post-drought years 1937-41, by States, and including the estimate made last December for winter wheat, the indicated 1944 all-wheat production would be approximately 750 million bushels, compared with 836 million bushels in 1943 and the 1935-39 average of 759 million. Winter precipitation has materially improved yield prospects, and acreage losses of winter wheat may be less than were expected last December. Subsoil moisture reserves in the Central Plains area, however, are insufficient to insure a good crop unless more than usual precipitation falls between now and harvest time.

A crop of 750 million bushels would provide for domestic food and seed requirements, normal feeding and moderate exports. Continuation of the use of wheat for more livestock feeding than average, for alcohol production, and for large lend-lease commitments would necessitate large imports, if our carry-over on July 1, 1945, is not to shrink below a reasonable reserve level. Assuming average weather, supplies in Canada, although reduced from present levels, undoubtedly will continue large in 1944-45, and will remain as a potential source of the extra supply for the United States. The carry-over July 1, 1944, is expected to be about 300 million bushels. This would provide 125 million bushels as operating stocks, 50 million as our commitment for liberated areas under the International Wheat Agreement, and over 100 million as a reserve against the possibility of low yields.

Growers' intentions indicate that 1,522,000 acres of rice will be seeded this year. This acreage is about the same as the WFA goal. It is only slightly less than the record of 1,531,000 acres planted in 1943, and is 45 percent greater than the 10-year (1933-42) average. A production of about 75 million bushels may be expected in 1944 if State yields per planted acre should equal the 1937-41 average. With yields last year somewhat below average, the 1943 crop totaled 69 million bushels. A crop of 75 million bushels should be large enough to provide for usual per capita domestic needs as well as to satisfy substantial foreign requirements.

Rye is chiefly seeded in the fall and no new indications will be available until April. Based on the December crop report, the 1944 crop is expected to be below the 31 million bushels produced in 1943, as the result of reduced acreage and below average condition. The crop together with the carry-over, however, is expected to be adequate to supply the 11 million bushels needed for food and 8 million for seed, and leave substantial quantities available for feed and industrial alcohol.

Table 1.- Planted acreage of major crops, 1935-39 average, 1943, goals for 1944, and prospective plantings for 1944, with percentage comparisons

Commodity	Planted acreage		1944 goal	Prospective plantings 1944 1/	Prospective 1944 as percentage of		
	1935-39	1943			1935-39	1943	1944 goal
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	Percent	Percent
Total	267,897	293,166	244,824	2/295,355	110	101	3/ 98
Corn, all	97,055	97,136	100,253	99,583	103	103	99
Spring wheat ...	21,659	17,275	---	19,805	91	115	---
Oats	40,586	42,858	39,558	46,170	114	108	117
Barley	13,364	17,329	17,372	15,074	113	87	87
Flaxseed	1,938	6,320	5,895	4,351	225	69	74
Rice	1,007	1,531	1,525	1,522	151	99	100
All sorghums ...	15,254	17,496	---	18,070	118	103	---
Potatoes	3,123	3,430	3,519	3,180	102	93	90
Sweetpotatoes ..	804	898	1,056	902	112	100	85
Tobacco 4/	1,647	1,462	1,756	1,716	104	117	98
Beans, dry edible	1,917	2,734	3,048	2,528	132	92	83
Peas, dry field	281	832	895	771	274	93	86
Soybeans 5/	7,262	14,762	---	14,619	201	99	---
Cowpeas 5/	3,165	2,266	---	1,835	58	81	---
Peanuts 5/	2,173	5,202	6,158	4,704	216	90	76
Tame hay 4/	55,770	61,016	62,838	59,910	107	98	95
Sugar beets	892	619	951	615	69	99	65

1/ Prospective plantings as of March 1, 1944.

2/ Total prospective acreage of those crops for which goals were set up is 241,026,000 acres.

3/ Percentage comparison for total excludes crops for which 1944 goals are not available.

4/ Acreage harvested.

5/ Grown alone for all purposes. Partly duplicated in hay acreage.

Table 2.- Prospective and actual acreages planted in major crops, 1941-43 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	1941			1942			1943		
	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective	Prospective	Actual	As percentage of prospective
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Percent
Total 2/	245,619	249,197	101	279,176	278,936	100	290,991	293,166	101
Corn, all	87,656	87,631	100	91,348	90,552	99	96,827	97,136	100
Spring wheat ..	17,137	16,661	97	15,287	14,155	93	14,707	17,275	117
Oats	37,102	41,598	112	40,377	42,595	105	42,638	42,858	101
Barley	14,348	15,797	110	18,208	19,536	107	19,306	17,329	90
Flaxseed	3,341	3,470	104	4,037	4,715	117	6,051	6,320	104
Rice	1,154	1,263	109	1,454	1,483	102	1,505	1,531	102
All sorghums ..	---	---	---	17,070	16,048	94	16,594	17,496	105
Potatoes	2,988	2,768	93	2,814	2,789	99	3,174	3,430	108
Sweetpotatoes .	835	746	89	776	710	91	813	898	110
Tobacco 3/	1,404	1,306	93	1,446	1,377	95	1,402	1,462	104
Beans, dry edible	1,855	2,255	122	2,412	2,106	87	2,480	2,734	110
Peas, dry field	---	---	---	---	---	---	677	832	123
Soybeans 4/ ...	9,788	10,146	104	14,085	13,879	99	15,603	14,762	95
Cowpeas 4/	3,217	3,778	117	3,898	3,438	88	2,974	2,266	76
Peanuts 4/	2,396	2,461	103	4,150	4,388	106	5,230	5,202	99
Tame hay 3/ ...	62,398	59,317	95	60,831	60,117	99	60,270	61,016	101
Sugar beets ...	---	---	---	983	1,048	107	740	619	84

1/ Based on acreages which farmers intended on March 1 each year to plant.

2/ Excludes acreages for crops not included in the Prospective Plantings Report for the given year.

3/ Acreage harvested.

4/ Grown alone for all purposes. Partly duplicated in hay acreage.

THE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, 1924-43

The per capita consumption of dairy products on a milk equivalent basis 1/ changed only slightly from 1924 to 1943. The high and low points were reached in the successive war years, 1942 and 1943, when consumption per capita was 850 pounds and 780 pounds, respectively. (See chart 1.) However, the total production of milk for human consumption increased about 30 percent during this period, from a low of 91 billion pounds in 1924 to 119 billion pounds in 1942, in line with the increase in population. Foreign trade before the war was an insignificant factor in total production and consumption of dairy products.

The per capita consumption of fluid milk and cream remained **remarkably constant** from 1924 to 1940, with the exception of about a 5 percent drop in the depression years 1934-35. However, as the cover chart shows, the increase from 1940 to 1943 has been almost phenomenal -- from 345 to 405 pounds per capita. This has resulted from a number of factors, principally higher incomes for many families formerly in the low- and medium-income classes, relative scarcity at times of some other foods, and developing consciousness of the nutritive value of milk.

During the 20-year period, 1924-43, the average per capita consumption of butter shows a downward trend, fluctuating in the pre-war years between 18.5 pounds and 16.5 pounds. In 1943, as the result of lower production and increased war demands, the average consumption per capita declined to a low of 12.4 pounds. Throughout the whole pre-war period, the volume of exports or imports of butter never exceeded 1 percent of the total supply.

Except for 1943, the civilian consumption of manufactured dairy products, other than butter, has shown a consistent upward trend during the period under consideration. In 1924, of the total per capita consumption of dairy products on a milk-equivalent basis, 10 percent was in the form of dairy products such as condensed and evaporated milk, cheese, and ice cream whereas in 1942, 18 percent of the milk fat solids consumed per capita was from these foods. At the same time, the per capita consumption of all dairy products, milk equivalent, increased 6 percent.

The apparent civilian consumption of condensed and evaporated milk increased from 11.8 to 19.7 pounds per capita in 1943 while total civilian consumption ranged from 1,349 million pounds, actual weight, in 1924, to 2,551 million pounds in 1940. This was an increase in total consumption of over 60 percent. The consumption of these two processed forms of milk has risen as the products have been improved and as new uses have been made of them.

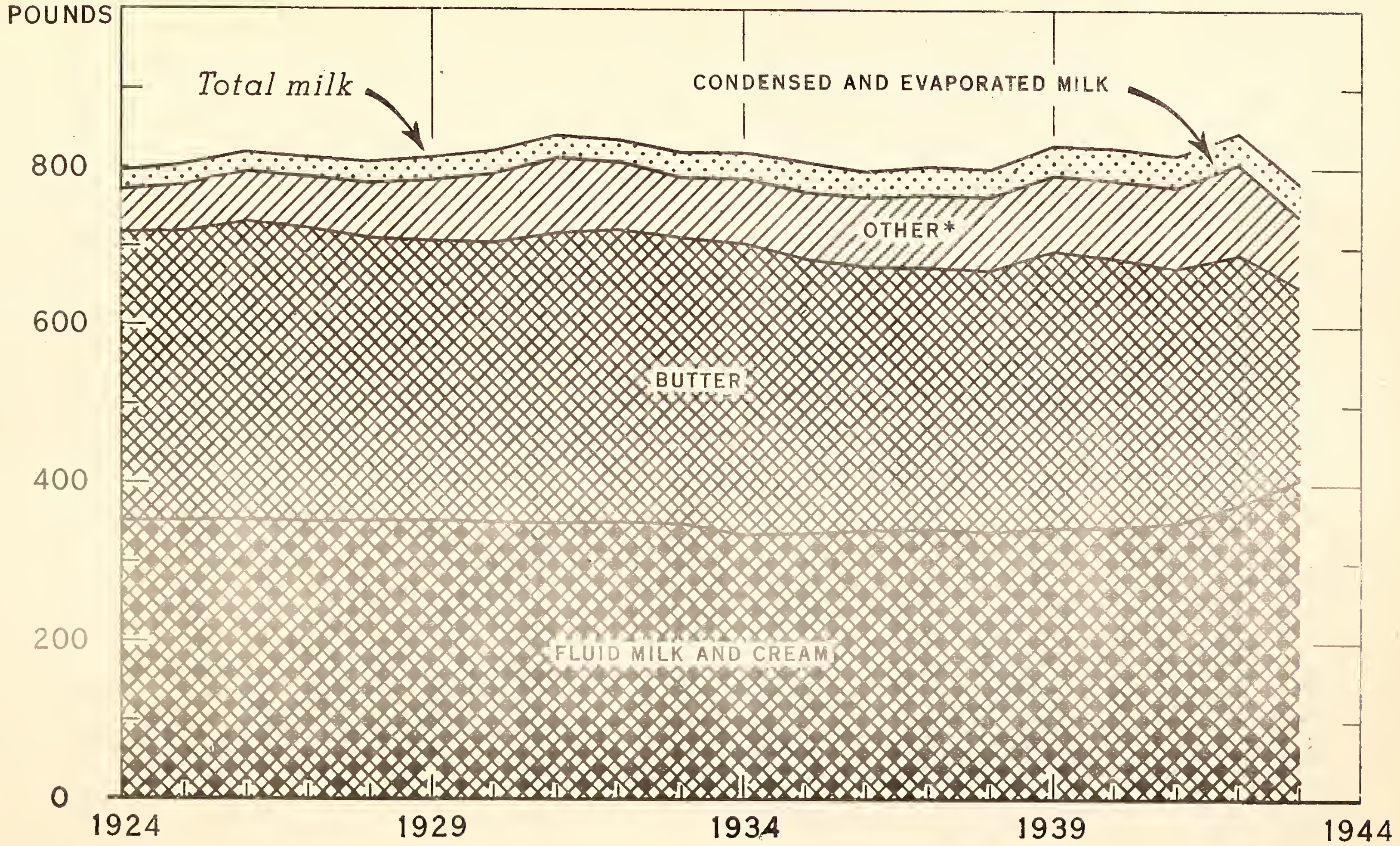
The per capita civilian consumption of cheese (exclusive of full skim American, cottage, pot, and bakers') was practically constant from year to year during the period 1924 to 1933, but since that time it has shown a steady increase, halted only in 1943 by heavy war requirements.

1/ To obtain a measure of total dairy products, the individual products were converted on basis of their fat content into equivalent pounds of whole milk. Changes in the consumption of the nonfat solid content of milk are not considered here.

The quantity of cheese imported remained small and relatively constant. Imports never exceeded the 81 million pounds imported in 1928. This quantity is quite small in comparison with the amount of cheese produced in this country, but the imports were of different types from the bulk of domestic production. Moreover, imports fell off materially after 1939 on account of the war, whereas domestic production increased. The manufacture of whole or part whole milk cheese was expanded from the 500 million pound level of annual output in the early 1930's to the 1,100 million pound level in 1942. The increase since 1940 has been largely because of the very heavy war requirement.

Ice cream consumption per capita increased 100 percent in the 18-year period from 1924 to 1942, from 8 pounds to 16 pounds, actual weight. Total civilian consumption per year rose from 912 million pounds in 1924 to 2,103 million pounds in 1942, a 130 percent increase. However, this was not a steady, continuous increase as in the case of cheese. While an upward trend in the consumption of ice cream is apparent, the demand for ice cream is affected by the level of consumer income. Aggregate annual consumption in the three depression years, 1932-34, was below that of 1924. The average quantity of ice cream consumed per capita in 1933, 5.6 pounds, was the lowest during this period. In 1941 it reached 13.7 pounds per capita and in 1942 it was 16.1 pounds. Although consumption data for 1943 are not yet available, it is known that wartime restrictions limited the production and civilian supply of ice cream in that year to a level below the record 1942 rate.

PER CAPITA CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, MILK EQUIVALENT BASIS, UNITED STATES, 1924-43^Δ



Δ THE PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION DATA FOR THE VARIOUS DAIRY PRODUCTS HAVE BEEN CONVERTED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR FAT CONTENT INTO THE EQUIVALENT POUNDS OF WHOLE MILK REQUIRED TO PRODUCE THEM.

* ICE CREAM, CHEESE, DRIED WHOLE MILK, ETC. DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43536 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of dairy products, United States, calendar years, 1924-43

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports	Stocks Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption	
							Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Total milk for human consumption 1/							
1924	90,918	1,390	1,669	93,977	833	2,269	90,875	796.4
1925	92,156	1,290	2,269	95,715	674	2,181	92,860	801.7
1926	94,546	1,484	2,181	98,211	548	1,644	96,019	817.9
1927	96,117	1,451	1,644	99,212	505	1,972	96,735	812.6
1928	96,423	1,285	1,972	99,680	507	2,164	97,009	805.0
1929	99,121	1,133	2,164	102,418	500	3,063	98,855	811.8
1930	99,998	886	3,063	103,947	451	2/2,630	100,866	819.6
1931	102,858	659	2,824	106,341	436	1,712	104,193	840.0
1932	103,777	577	1,712	106,066	332	1,553	104,181	834.5
1933	104,710	495	1,553	106,758	306	3,837	102,615	817.1
1934	101,759	492	3,837	106,088	336	2,420	103,332	817.7
1935	101,355	960	2,420	104,735	326	2,104	102,305	804.0
1936	102,481	831	2,104	105,416	299	3,098	102,019	796.7
1937	102,010	848	3,098	105,956	322	2,366	103,268	801.6
1938	105,783	569	2,366	108,718	384	4,484	103,850	799.9
1939	106,651	603	4,484	111,738	429	2,751	108,558	829.4
1940	109,341	347	2,751	112,439	740	2,698	109,001	826.0
1941	115,196	3/	2,698	3/	3/	5,509	3/107,060	813.6
1942	118,776	3/	5,509	3/	3/	3,772	3/111,116	849.6
1943 4/	117,853	3/	3,775	3/	3/	6,263	3/ 99,919	779.9
	Fluid milk and cream 5/							
1924	39,822	422	n.r.	40,244	1	n.r.	40,243	352.7
1925	40,422	529	n.r.	40,951	1	n.r.	40,950	353.5
1926	41,065	547	n.r.	41,612	1	n.r.	41,611	354.4
1927	41,587	475	n.r.	42,062	1	n.r.	42,061	353.3
1928	42,270	373	n.r.	42,643	1	n.r.	42,642	353.9
1929	43,084	303	n.r.	43,387	2	n.r.	43,385	356.3
1930	43,273	157	n.r.	43,430	2	2/ n.r.	43,428	352.9
1931	43,316	12	194	43,522	1	54	43,467	350.4
1932	44,069	11	54	44,134	---	152	43,982	352.3
1933	44,065	2	152	44,219	---	156	44,063	350.9
1934	42,287	---	156	42,443	1	55	42,387	335.4
1935	42,974	---	55	43,029	1	89	42,939	337.4
1936	43,925	4	89	44,018	1	135	43,882	342.7
1937	44,253	12	135	44,400	1	23	44,376	344.5
1938	44,358	---	23	44,381	---	174	44,207	340.5
1939	45,223	---	174	45,397	---	85	45,312	346.2
1940	45,591	---	85	45,676	3	95	45,578	345.4
1941	46,900	3/	95	3/	3/	228	3/46,514	353.5
1942	49,433	3/	228	3/	3/	110	3/49,110	375.5
1943 4/	53,519	3/	110	3/	3/	360	3/51,882	405.0

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of dairy products, United States, calendar years, 1924-43 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution			
							Apparent civilian consumption	
	Production	Imports	Stocks Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks Dec. 31	Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Butter, farm and factory 6/							
1924	2,082	18	30	2,130	11	66	2,053	18.0
1925	2,074	7	66	2,147	8	53	2,086	18.0
1926	2,156	7	53	2,216	8	34	2,174	18.5
1927	2,172	8	34	2,213	8	46	2,160	18.1
1928	2,114	4	46	2,164	7	44	2,113	17.5
1929	2,160	3	44	2,207	8	82	2,117	17.4
1930	2,121	2	82	2,205	7	63	2,135	17.3
1931	2,212	2	63	2,277	6	27	2,244	18.1
1932	2,275	1	27	2,303	6	22	2,275	18.2
1933	2,343	1	22	2,366	7	111	2,248	17.9
1934	2,253	1	111	2,365	6	47	2,312	18.3
1935	2,172	23	47	2,242	7	40	2,195	17.2
1936	2,131	10	40	2,181	6	61	2,114	16.5
1937	2,096	11	61	2,168	6	43	2,119	16.5
1938	2,240	2	43	2,285	8	129	2,148	16.5
1939	2,210	1	129	2,340	9	55	2,276	17.4
1940	2,240	1	55	2,296	11	41	2,244	17.0
1941	2,268	3/	41	3/	3/	114	3/2,105	16.0
1942	2,127	3/	114	3/	3/	25	3/2,064	15.8
1943 4/	2,061	3/	25	3/	3/	154	3/1,591	12.4
	Condensed and evaporated milk 7/							
1924	1,507	6	171	1,684	221	114	1,349	11.8
1925	1,548	4	114	1,666	162	151	1,353	11.7
1926	1,456	2	151	1,609	130	91	1,388	11.8
1927	1,576	2	91	1,669	119	165	1,385	11.6
1928	1,604	2	165	1,771	131	168	1,472	12.2
1929	1,848	2	168	2,018	125	237	1,656	13.6
1930	1,761	1	237	1,999	106	220	1,673	13.6
1931	1,683	---	220	1,903	93	145	1,665	13.4
1932	1,780	---	145	1,925	68	112	1,745	14.0
1933	1,899	1	112	2,012	55	220	1,737	13.8
1934	1,908	---	219	2,127	65	167	1,895	15.0
1935	2,032	1	167	2,200	62	82	2,056	16.2
1936	2,270	2	82	2,354	50	268	2,036	15.9
1937	2,131	2	268	2,401	58	188	2,155	16.7
1938	2,322	1	188	2,511	58	212	2,241	17.3
1939	2,367	---	212	2,579	61	192	2,326	17.8
1940	2,731	---	192	2,923	176	196	2,551	19.3
1941	3,555	3/	196	3/	3/	412	3/2,421	18.4
1942	3,782	3/	412	3/	3/	827	3/2,492	19.1
1943 4/	3,337	3/	827	3/	3/	417	3/2,530	19.7

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of dairy products, United States, calendar years, 1924-43 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports	Stocks Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption Total	Apparent civilian consumption Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Cheese 8/							
1924	468	59	67	594	8	68	518	4.5
1925	491	62	68	621	13	77	531	4.6
1926	473	78	77	628	7	74	547	4.7
1927	447	79	74	600	6	66	528	4.4
1928	478	81	66	625	4	89	532	4.4
1929	486	76	89	651	4	86	561	4.6
1930	500	68	86	654	4	83	567	4.6
1931	492	62	83	637	4	78	555	4.5
1932	484	56	78	618	4	69	545	4.4
1933	543	48	69	660	3	92	565	4.5
1934	579	47	92	718	4	102	612	4.8
1935	621	49	102	772	4	99	669	5.3
1936	642	60	99	801	4	110	687	5.4
1937	649	61	110	820	4	104	712	5.5
1938	725	54	104	883	4	120	759	5.8
1939	709	59	120	888	4	109	774	5.9
1940	785	33	109	927	6	130	791	6.0
1941	956	3/	130	3/	3/	202	3/790	6.0
1942	1,109	3/	202	3/	3/	131	3/837	6.4
1943 4/	980	3/	131	3/	3/	176	3/651	5.1

1/ On fat solids basis. The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off farm production while the latter excludes off farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume.

2/ No stocks of fluid milk and cream are included for 1930 nor for any year prior thereto since no reports on beginning of year stocks were available for those years.

3/ The total apparent civilian consumption for the years 1941-43 is obtained by subtracting from the total supply, the lend-lease, and other exports and military takings. Due to wartime restrictions, such data cannot be published, but the total noncivilian purchases (including military, lend-lease, and regular exports) accounted for 4.6 percent of the total milk supply on a milk equivalent basis, in 1941, 8.6 percent in 1942, and 12.9 percent in 1943. The per capita civilian consumption for each year is obtained by dividing the total apparent civilian consumption by the total population less 90 percent of the military forces.

4/ All data for 1943 are preliminary. The April National Food Situation will include revised consumption data for 1943.

5/ Fluid milk equivalent.

6/ Actual weight.

7/ Canned weight.

8/ Actual weight. Excludes cottage, pot, bakers', and full skim American cheese.

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Table 4.- Per capita civilian consumption of ice cream, U. S., 1924-42 1/
(Actual weight in pounds)

Year	Civilian consumption	
	Total	Per capita
	Million pounds	Pounds
1924	912	8.0
1925	1,085	9.4
1926	1,077	9.2
1927	1,122	9.4
1928	1,136	9.4
1929	1,221	10.0
1930	1,132	9.2
1931	979	7.9
1932	727	5.8
1933	700	5.6
1934	844	6.7
1935	937	7.4
1936	1,145	8.9
1937	1,320	10.2
1938	1,325	10.2
1939	1,431	10.9
1940	1,495	11.3
1941	1,797	13.7
1942	2,103	16.1

1/ Very little ice cream enters into foreign trade channels or is stored, so civilian consumption approximates production each year. Data for 1943 are not yet available.

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THE National Food SITUATION

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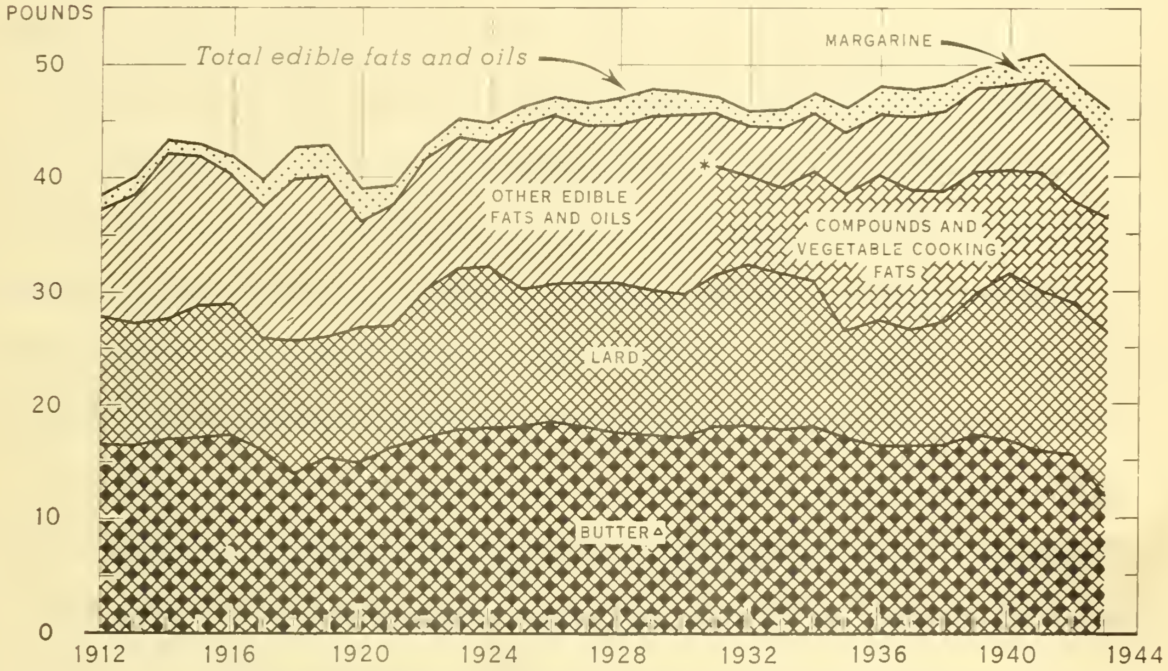
PER CAPITA CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS, UNITED STATES, 1912-43



* BREAKDOWN BETWEEN COMPOUNDS AND VEGETABLE COOKING FATS AND OTHER EDIBLE FATS AND OILS NOT AVAILABLE PRIOR TO 1931

△ ACTUAL WEIGHT OF BUTTER, FAT CONTENT OF OTHER FATS AND OILS PRODUCTS

DATA FOR 1943 ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43581 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

Per capita civilian food consumption in 1944 is expected to average substantially the same as last year, despite the use of about 25 percent of the total food output to meet war requirements. In 1943 the pre-war (1935-39) level of civilian food consumption was exceeded by 6 percent as the result of record food production. At the same time, over one-fifth of the total food output went for military and lend-lease purposes. During the first 4 months of 1944, the rate of civilian consumption has been somewhat higher than it averaged in 1943.

Prospects for civilian food supplies in the next few months are relatively good. During the spring and early summer, potatoes and eggs will continue to be abundant. Supplies of fresh vegetables and citrus fruits will be relatively large. Civilian supplies of cheese, chickens, and most fats and oils including butter, are expected to be larger in the next few months than in the earlier months of 1944.

Civilian per capita consumption of meat in the first half of 1944 is expected to be at the annual rate of about 155 pounds. This unusually high rate of consumption is due to record production, and to shipping and storage difficulties. For the year 1944 as a whole, civilian meat consumption will apparently be around 145 pounds per capita, 8 pounds higher than the revised estimate of 137 pounds per capita for both 1943 and 1942.

Although the seasonal decline in egg supplies has begun, eggs remain plentiful. Market supplies of chickens are increasing seasonally and during the next 4 or 5 months probably will exceed the 1943 record supplies for the same months. In the last few months of 1944, civilian supplies will be reduced because of smaller total marketings and heavy military takings.

Prospects for total milk production have improved recently. The civilian supply of all dairy products in 1944 may approximate that of 1943. Butter supplies are expected to be larger, supplies of fluid milk will remain about the same, while cream, cheese, and condensed and evaporated milk are likely to be somewhat smaller for the year as a whole. The civilian supplies of food fats and oils in the aggregate for 1944 may be approximately the same as those of the year before, with somewhat more lard, butter and margarine but less of the other fats and oils products. Currently, civilian supplies of all fats and oils are larger than at any time since early last summer.

Indications are that civilians will have at least as large a total supply of fruits and vegetables as last year. Marketings of fresh fruits and vegetables continue large. War requirements for canned fruits and vegetables are very heavy. Prospective reductions in civilian supplies of the commercial canned goods amounting to 15 or 20 percent for the year are likely to be offset by large fresh supplies, particularly in the case of vegetables.

Prospects for the winter wheat crop have improved. The 1944 winter wheat crop is now expected to reach 602 million bushels, 72 million more than in 1943. Total domestic wheat supplies, including spring wheat, will be more than adequate to meet all food requirements. Any imports of wheat can be used to meet unusual demands for feed and alcohol.

-- April 28, 1944

Table 1.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary appraisals for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	60.5	61.2	50.1	54	99	108
Veal	8.0	7.6	8.0	7.9	9	112	114
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.8	7.1	6.3	6	90	95
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	66.5	61.5	72.9	76	135	104
Total meats	125.6	141.4	137.8	137.2	145	115	106
Poultry products							
Eggs 2/	37.3	38.8	39.1	43.0	44.1	118	103
Chickens (dressed weight)	17.9	19.4	21.5	28.1	23.8	133	85
Turkeys (dressed weight)	2.6	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.1	119	97
Dairy products							
Total milk	801.3	807.0	839.8	767.6	760.0	95	99
Cheese	5.5	6.0	6.3	5.0	4.6	84	92
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	18.3	18.9	18.8	14.9	89	79
Fluid milk and cream	340.1	350.6	371.8	403.4	396.2	116	98
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory	16.7	15.9	15.6	12.0	12.6	75	105
Lard	10.9	14.1	13.5	14.5	15.2	139	105
Shortening (fat content)	11.8	10.4	8.9	9.9	9.0	76	91
Margarine (fat content)	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.2	3.4	148	106
Other food products and uses (fat content)	6.3	8.3	8.1	6.3	5.8	92	92
Total fats and oils	48.0	3/ 51.0	3/ 48.4	3/ 45.8	46.0	96	100
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	59.7	57.0	59.8	65.1	133	109
Apples (commercial)	30.2	30.9	26.8	23.0	4/73.8	83	121
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	59.4	46.2	37.9			
Processed							
Canned fruits	14.9	19.3	14.2	11.3	9.6	64	85
Canned juices	4.1	8.5	6.9	6.5	7.1	173	109
Frozen	.7	1.3	1.7	1.4	2.0	286	143
Dried	5.6	4.5	4.3	5.3	4.0	71	75
Vegetables							
Fresh	235.3	240.5	250.7	233.0	242.5	103	104
Canned	31.1	38.6	41.3	30.6	27.2	87	89
Frozen	5/ .4	.7	1.1	.8	1.5	375	188
Potatoes	130.5	123.3	118.7	141.6	119.4	91	84
Sweetpotatoes	23.3	20.5	19.3	21.3	22.3	96	105
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.7	8.6	9.3	9.4	107	101
Sugar (refined)	96.5	103.6	86.2	78.4	81.3	84	104

Continued -

Table 1.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and preliminary appraisals for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Grains							
Corn products							
Corn meal	23.7	22.2	20.8	22.5	22.3	94	99
Corn sirup	7.7	8.7	14.3	11.1	10.2	132	92
Corn starch	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.7	131	100
Corn sugar	3.2	4.7	5.5	4.6	4.4	138	96
Breakfast food	1.7	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.3	135	96
Hominy	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.8	150	95
Oats							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.6	4.4	113	96
Barley							
Barley food products 6/	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.7	121	100
Wheat							
Flour 7/	154.4	150.9	152.6	157.2	157.6	102	100
Breakfast food	3.3	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	112	100
Rye							
Rye flour	2.4	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.8	158	100
Rice, milled	5.8	5.2	6.2	5.8	5.9	102	102
Beverages							
Coffee 8/	14.0	15.5	13.4	13.1	15.1	108	115
Tea	.7	.8	.5	.5	.6	86	120
Cocoa	4.4	4.8	3.8	3.1	3.9	89	126

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of military personnel. It is assumed that approximately 15 percent of food consumed by military personnel is obtained through normal distribution channels.

1/ 1943 data are preliminary and those for 1944 appraisals. Calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July 1; fresh citrus fruits, sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year. For more detailed explanation see footnotes table 2.

2/ In terms of number of eggs the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 311 in 1941, 313 in 1942, 344 in 1943, and 353 in 1944.

3/ Totals are derived from unrounded data for individual items.

4/ Apples not reported separately in 1944.

5/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

6/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent.

7/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour.

8/ On a green bean basis.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilian per capita consumption of meat in the first half of 1944 is expected to be at the annual rate of about 155 pounds. This unusually high rate of consumption is due to record production, and to shipping and storage difficulties. For the year 1944 as a whole, civilian meat consumption will apparently be around 145 pounds per capita, 8 pounds higher than the revised estimate of 137 pounds per capita for both 1943 and 1942. Half of the civilian per capita meat probably will be pork, about 45 percent beef, and the rest will be veal, lamb, and mutton.

The seasonal out-of-storage movement of cured and frozen meats began in March, but the decrease in stocks during that month amounted to less than 1 percent. On April 1 cold storage stocks of meats, exclusive of offals, totaled 1,103 million pounds, compared with 702 million pounds on April 1, 1943.

Under the Government's policy of increasing its purchases of meat during peak production periods, and reducing them as far as possible when meat production declines seasonally, the proportion of most beef except canner and cutter set aside for Government purchase was reduced from 50 percent to 40 percent, effective April 16. Cutter and canner beef is now exempt from any set-aside, whereas 80 percent was formerly required. Therefore, civilians will receive a slightly larger proportion of the smaller current beef production, in line with the War Food Administration allocation program.

Poultry and Eggs

The production of eggs on farms is expected to decrease more than seasonally until the year's low is reached in November, and the total output in the last few months of 1944 may well be below the record during the same months of 1943. Substantial quantities of storage eggs will supplement current production. Nevertheless, during the closing months of 1944, supplies of eggs for civilians are likely to be smaller than the record supplies of a year earlier. For the year 1944 as a whole, average consumption should approximate the record of 344 eggs per capita reached in 1943, since these reduced supplies for the latter part of the year are expected to offset the very abundant supplies so far this year.

Consumer demand for eggs has continued at an unusually high level but because of unprecedented supplies, prices of eggs at all stages of distribution have been lower than a year earlier. In mid-March the average retail price of eggs in the major cities surveyed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics was 47.8 cents per dozen compared with 50.9 cents at the same time last year. However, retail egg prices in large cities have not fallen as much from the levels a year ago as have United States average producer prices. With a greater decline in civilian egg supplies later in this year than during the comparable period of 1943, the increase in egg prices from present below-ceiling levels to the fall peak is very likely to be greater than the increase during the comparable period a year earlier.

Supplies of chicken are beginning to increase seasonally and will continue to gain in volume until the annual peak is reached early next fall. With the relatively heavy early hatch this spring and heavier than usual culling of laying flocks in prospect, total marketings of chickens probably will continue heavier than the record of a year earlier through the third quarter of this year. In the last 3 months, however, total supplies probably will be under the record quantities in the corresponding period of 1943. Slaughter of chickens for 1944 as a whole will be somewhat less than in 1943. With larger military requirements this year, per capita supplies for civilians will be around 15 percent less than in 1943, but larger than in any year prior to 1943. Present prospects point to a little larger turkey crop than last year, but with prospective larger purchases for military use, per capita supplies for civilians may not be any larger than in 1943. Consumer demand for poultry probably will continue to absorb available quantities at ceiling prices.

Dairy Products

The civilian supply of all dairy products in 1944 probably will approximate that of 1943, on a milk equivalent basis. Per capita supplies of fluid milk and cream in 1944 will be about the same as in 1943. The butter consumption rate may rise from 12.0 pounds per capita in 1943 to 12.6 pounds in 1944, but will still be considerably below the 1935-39 average rate of 16.7 pounds. Cheese supplies for the current year are expected to fall somewhat below last year. Average civilian per capita consumption of condensed and evaporated milk may decrease as much as 4 pounds from the 1943 level of 18.8 pounds.

The total milk supply situation has improved recently with the more than seasonal recovery of milk production from its slump of last fall. Among the factors in this recovery were the use of a larger proportion of total feed grain supplies going to milk cows than last year, improved returns, and a relatively mild winter. Soon pastures will be supplementing the feeding operations.

Under War Food Administration allocations, civilian supplies of butter and cheese will be larger during the April-June quarter than during the January-March period. In fact, during March as well as April civilians have received more creamery butter than in any other month since January 1943. Cheese allocations provide for 40 million pounds per month for civilians compared with 30 million each month since February 1943. Civilian allocations of evaporated and condensed milk for the second quarter of 1944 remain unchanged from the first 3 months.

Recent Government actions affecting the consumption of dairy products include the issuance of FDO 95, which placed the distribution of milk sugar under the direction of the Director of Food Distribution. Specific dollars and-cents ceilings have been placed on condensed milk products by OPA, replacing the base period schedule. The ration point value of cream cheese has been raised; placing all types of cheese at 12 points per pound.

Fats and Oils

The 1944 civilian per capita supply of all food fats and oils may be approximately the same as in 1943. Civilian per capita supplies may permit butter and lard consumption at a slightly higher annual rate than in 1943. The quantity of primary fats and oils tentatively scheduled for margarine manufacture is sufficient to permit an increase in civilian consumption. However, the 1944 per capita consumption of compounds and vegetable cooking fats and other edible fats and oils probably will be somewhat lower than in 1943.

More complete data now available for 1943 indicate that civilian disappearance of food fats in that year, including the actual weight of butter and the fat content of other products, totaled about 45.8 pounds per capita, 2.6 pounds less than in 1942 and 2.2 pounds less than the 1935-39 average. The principal changes in 1943 were a reduction of 3.6 pounds per capita in butter from the 1942 average and an increase of 1.0 pound per capita in lard. These changes in consumption reflected changes in production. There was a net decrease of 0.8 pound per capita in civilian disappearance of cooking and salad oils and shortenings other than lard; cooking and salad oils decreased 1.8 pounds, and shortenings (compounds and vegetable cooking fats) increased 1.0 pound. Disappearance of fats and oils in margarine manufactured for civilian consumption increased 1.0 pound to 3.2 pounds per capita in 1943, the highest level on record. In terms of actual weight, civilian disappearance of margarine in 1943 was 3.9 pounds per capita.

Current civilian supplies of food fats and oils are relatively large. During April, the level of supplies available for civilians was the highest since food fats were first rationed. As the result of the seasonal peak in production and the required set aside in April of only 10 percent of creamery butter output, the quantity of butter available in the April-June quarter this year is expected to total about 432 million pounds compared with about 410 million pounds in January-March 1944 and also in April-June 1943. Civilian butter supplies for the last half of 1944 are likely to be at least as large as during the same months of 1943.

Lard for civilians has been plentiful since early March when the ration-point value was reduced to zero to encourage consumption of very large supplies since additional storage facilities for lard were not available. The rate of lard production is expected to decline considerably during the rest of the year. In early April, the ration-point values of compounds and vegetable cooking fats, and cooking and salad oils were reduced to zero. However, the quarterly use of primary fats and oils going into the manufacture of these products remains restricted to 88 percent of average use in the corresponding quarter of 1940 and 1941 under War Food Order 42.

Vegetables

Civilian per capita supplies of vegetables for 1944 probably will approximate those consumed in 1943. A prospective decrease in canned vegetables should be about offset by an increase in fresh vegetables. Furthermore, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry edible beans and peas should be in relatively plentiful supply.

Marketing of the winter-season truck crop production of 1944 is nearly completed. Aggregate production during this season now is estimated to be about

36 percent larger than the comparable production in 1943. Large plantings of spring truck crops for fresh market (marketed principally from April through June) also are in prospect. Such plantings to date are estimated to exceed the corresponding 1943 acreage by 24 percent. Aggregate production in 1944 of the spring truck crops reported to April 1 is indicated to be approximately 16 percent larger than the production of these same crops in 1943. During early April, frosts and heavy rains damaged to some extent truck crops in Florida and other southeastern States.

Plentiful market supplies of snap beans, cabbage, asparagus, carrots, lettuce, and new onions are in prospect for the next few weeks. Beets, cauliflower, celery, green peppers, green peas, spinach, and tomatoes also should be available in moderate supply, with all except green peas more plentiful than a year earlier.

Plantings of cabbage, onions, and watermelons for the summer season are estimated at 102, 133, and 150 percent, respectively, of the harvested acreages of these crops in 1943. The 1944 early fall acreage of Domestic and Danish cabbage, including cabbage for sauerkraut, is indicated to be about 25 percent larger than that of 1943.

A supply of the major canned vegetables sufficiently large to permit a moderate level of consumption of these products by civilians appears probable for the remainder of the 1943-44 marketing season. Processors' reports to the United States Department of Agriculture on prospective 1944 plantings of truck crops for canning and freezing indicate slight increases in the acreages of sweetcorn and green peas, and a small decrease in the acreage of snap beans. These reports, however, only reflect the intentions of the processors, and should not be interpreted as estimates of actual planted acreages for processing. If these acreages are planted, normal abandonment occurs, and yields in line with the 1938-42 average are obtained, the sweetcorn crop for processing would be substantially larger in 1944 than in 1943, and the processing crops of green peas and of snap beans would be slightly larger. Reports on production of spinach for processing in California and Texas indicate a tonnage about two-thirds larger this year than last. Data are not available at present on other processing crops.

Continuing abundant supplies of Irish potatoes are in prospect for the next few months. Supplies of old stock potatoes remain plentiful and the new crop is being marketed in increasing quantity.

Total plantings of commercial early potatoes now are estimated at 395,000 acres -- 5.5 percent larger than the acreage in 1943 and 27 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. The April 1 condition of the early- and late-spring crops was less favorable this year than last. Crops in most of the late spring States also are expected to be considerably later than usual. However, the unusually large stocks of old potatoes are expected to continue to supply the market adequately until the new crop is ready for market in large supply.

Fruits

Civilian consumption of all fresh fruit in 1944 is expected to be 135 to 145 pounds per capita, or about one-sixth more than in 1943. Although citrus fruits probably will account for 5.3 pounds of the increase, the possible larger consumption of fruits other than citrus may contribute more to the total increase. These increases in fresh fruits more than offset the decreased supplies of canned fruits which, according to revised estimates, may total 9.6 pounds for the 1944-45 pack year and 11.3 pounds for the 1943-44 pack year, compared with 14.2 pounds in 1942-43.

Increasing quantities of fresh fruit are moving into consumption channels, judging by carlot shipments of such fruit by rail and boat, which, for the week ended April 8, were 13 percent larger than the number of cars shipped during the corresponding week a month earlier. Citrus fruits from this year's record large crop account for most of this increase, although the number of cars of strawberries also increased. In contrast, recent shipments of pears declined and those of apples remained fairly steady. Stocks of these two fruits are much smaller than a year ago, pointing to an early close of the shipping season for them.

Supplies of strawberries this spring are expected to be somewhat smaller than a year earlier. The crops of early-spring and mid-spring strawberries alone are expected to be about one-fifth smaller this year than last and only about one-half of average production. Acreage is considerably smaller than last year.

Grapefruit juice continues to be plentiful. Because of small crops in 1943, supplies of canned deciduous fruits continue short. Civilian supplies of raisins and dried prunes, however, are considerably larger this year than last.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

The winter wheat crop indication based on April 1 condition was 602 million bushels, 75 million above the December estimate, 72 million above the crop in 1943, and 31 million bushels above the 1933-42 average. The winter has been favorable to soft red winter wheat used in the making of flour for pastry, crackers, biscuits, and cakes. This type of wheat has been in short supply for the last 2 years. Hard red winter wheat prospects improved greatly during the winter and are now moderately above the 1933-42 average. Wheat of this type and hard red spring wheat are especially suited for the making of bread flours. Assuming spring wheat yields equal to those of the post-drought years on the acreage reported in intentions and including the April estimate for the winter crop, the indicated 1944 production of all wheat would be approximately 825 million bushels. A crop of this size would take care of all the demand for wheat food products, as well as seed, normal feeding moderate exports, and moderate quantities for the production of industrial alcohol. Above normal feeding, continued use of very large quantities of wheat for alcohol, and very large exports would still necessitate substantial imports if our reserves are to be maintained at a desirable level. The carry-over of old wheat July 1, 1944, is expected to be about 300 million bushels.

The April 1 condition of rye shows an improvement from a condition of 76 percent of normal on December 1 to 79 percent on April 1. On April 1, 1943, condition was 82 percent of normal, the second highest condition since 1930, compared with 75 percent, the 1933-42 average. The first indication of rye production will be issued May 10. On the basis of reported condition and reduced acreage, the 1944 crop is expected to be about the same as the 31 million bushels produced in 1943. The crop together with the carry-over, however, is expected to be adequate to supply the 11 million bushels needed for food and 8 million for seed, and leave substantial quantities available for feed and industrial alcohol.

On the basis of the Prospective Plantings Report, a production of about 75 million bushels of rice may be expected in 1944, if the acreage turns out to be about as indicated and if State yields per planted acre should equal the 1937-41 average. With yields last year somewhat below average, the 1943 crop totaled 70 million bushels. A crop of 75 million bushels should be large enough to provide for about usual per capita domestic needs as well as to satisfy substantial foreign requirements.

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1941, 1942, 1943 and preliminary appraisals for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of Average 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil. lb.	6,936	8,092	8,831	8,536	9,450	136	111
Veal	"	1,038	1,029	1,139	1,142	1,270	122	111
Lamb and mutton	"	871	925	1,045	1,107	940	108	85
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	9,447	10,723	13,371	13,800	188	103
Total meats	"	16,182	19,493	21,738	24,156	25,460	157	105
Poultry products								
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	3,828	4,430	4,965	5,100	153	103
Chickens (dressed weight)	Mil. lb.	2,325	2,642	2,988	3,821	3,500	151	92
Turkeys (dressed weight)	"	350	468	496	466	480	137	103
Dairy products 2/								
Total milk for human consumption 3/	"	103,656	115,196	118,773	117,689	118,000	114	100
Cheese 4/	"	669	956	1,109	980	985	147	101
Condensed and evaporated milk	"	2,225	3,555	3,782	3,337	3,570	160	107
Fluid milk and cream 5/	"	44,146	46,900	49,519	53,929	52,830	120	98
Fats and oils								
Butter, farm and factory	"	2,170	2,268	2,130	2,026	1,965	91	97
Lard 6/	"	1,620	2,213	2,385	2,917	3,000	185	103
Shortening (fat content)	"	1,539	1,418	1,309	1,458	1,413	92	97
Margarine (fat content)	"	303	297	347	500	566	187	113
Other food products and uses 7/	"	573	1,010	1,141	1,244	1,077	188	87
Total fats and oils	"	6,205	7,206	7,312	8,145	8,021	129	98

Continued -

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average 1941, 1942, 1943 and preliminary appraisals for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of	
							Average 1935-39	1943
Fruits								
Fresh								
Citrus	Mil. lb.	6,870	8,517	8,333	8,837	9,634	140	109
Apples	"	4,384	4,110	4,070	2,832	8/8,710	95	132
Other (excluding melons) 9/	"	4,807	5,340	4,907	3,779			
Processed								
Canned fruits 10/	"	1,666	2,332	2,179	1,557	2,200	132	141
Canned juices 11/	"	318	907	858	1,375	1,425	448	104
Frozen 12/	"	106	208	233	230	253	239	110
Dried 13/	"	1,127	922	1,050	1,380	1,190	106	86
Vegetables								
Fresh 14/	"	30,498	32,183	34,161	31,227	33,131	109	106
Canned 15/	"	4,084	5,824	6,800	6,192	6,691	164	108
Frozen 16/	"	78	107	171	230	279	358	121
Potatoes	1,000 bu.	358,713	364,602	371,489	465,656	410,000	114	88
Sweetpotatoes	"	67,927	62,144	65,508	72,572	76,000	112	105
Beans, dry edible 17/	1,000 100 lb. bags	13,606	17,047	17,612	20,066	21,000	154	105
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 short tons	1,948	2,090	2,141	1,531	1,650	85	108
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	943	974	836	825	109	99
Rye	"	45	45	58	31	30	67	97
Rice	"	50	51	64	70	75	150	107
Corn	"	2,316	2,676	3,132	3,076	3,126	135	102
Oats	"	1,045	1,181	1,350	1,144	1,300	124	114
Barley	"	239	362	429	322	280	117	87

Continued -

Table 2.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943 and preliminary appraisals for 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

1/ Data for 1943 are preliminary, and those for 1944 are preliminary appraisals. Calendar year basis except for: Fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; and potatoes on the basis of a year beginning July 1.
2/ Calculated on fat solids equivalent. Complete data for ice cream consumption as ice cream for 1943 are not available. It is estimated that in 1944 4,355 million pounds of milk (excluding milk duplicated in butter and condensed milk) will go into the production of ice cream compared with the estimate of 4,235 million pounds in 1943, 5,320 million in 1942, 4,540 in 1941 and an average of 3,083 in 1935-39.
3/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off farm production while the latter excludes off farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume.
4/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese.
5/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use.
6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products.
7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products, and other minor uses such as fish canning.
8/ Apples not reported separately in 1944.
9/ Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries, (including noncommercial) cranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums and prunes (including noncommercial), and strawberries (including noncommercial).
10/ Includes apples and applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, olives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears.
11/ Includes grape, grapefruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous, also concentrates.
12/ Principally cherries, strawberries, and other berries.
13/ Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins.
14/ Estimates of all vegetables other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production.
15/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, spinach, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables.
16/ Includes asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, broccoli, brussel sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots (mixed), spinach, squash, and miscellaneous.
17/ Cleaned basis.

THE SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD FATS AND OILS, 1912-43

The total consumption of fats and oils as food by civilians increased from 3.7 billion pounds in 1912 to about 6.7 billion pounds in 1940 and 1941, an increase of 80 percent (see table 3). Because of wartime requirements, total civilian consumption declined to 6.0 million pounds in 1943. 1/ The trend in per capita consumption has been the same as in total consumption -- from 38.5 pounds in 1912 to 51.0 pounds in 1941 2/, and 45.8 in 1943. The general upward trend was not altered by periods of economic depression (see cover chart).

Domestic production of food fats and oils has also increased but this increase has been neither as continuous nor as great. In 1941, domestic production, at 7.2 billion pounds was 56 percent greater than in 1912. During the past 2 years, the record high domestic production has contributed to maintaining consumption at a fairly high level, despite the reduction in imports and the increasingly heavy war requirements.

Total butter consumption by civilians in 1943 was slightly below that in 1912, as the result of lower production and increased demands for war uses. The peak in total consumption came in 1934 when 2.3 billion pounds were consumed. On the other hand, the average per capita consumption of butter shows a slight downward trend since 1926, with minor fluctuations. The highest annual per capita consumption rates in the 1912-43 period were 18.5 pounds in 1926, and 18.2 in 1934. The 2 war years 1918 and 1943 show the smallest rates of butter consumption, 13.8 and 12.0 pounds, respectively. In both instances this resulted from lower production as a larger proportion of the total milk supply went into fluid milk and cream, and from non-United States civilian requirements. Since only a small part of the butter supply went through foreign trade channels prior to the present war, and end-of-year stocks were relatively small, changes in butter consumption reflect rather closely changes in butter production.

The relative position of lard in the civilian consumption of fats and oils has changed little in the last 30 years. From 1912 to 1943 the total of fats and oils consumed as food rose about 60 percent, while lard consumption increased about 70 percent, from 1.1 billion pounds in 1912 to 1.9 billion in 1943. The civilian supply of lard fluctuates both with total lard production which follows the total live weight of hog slaughter (except in 1942 and 1943 when a larger proportion of fat appears to have been sold as meat) and with the demands for export, which were quite heavy in the 20's, dropped off in the 30's, and became again important under the Lend-lease program. Very little lard has ever been imported. Per capita civilian consumption of lard, estimated at 11.3 pounds for 1912, reached its low for the 1912-43 period in 1935 with 9.5 pounds as the result of reduced production in that drought year and its high in 1940 with 14.7 pounds per capita.

1/ Includes total weight of butter but fat content only of other fats and oils products.

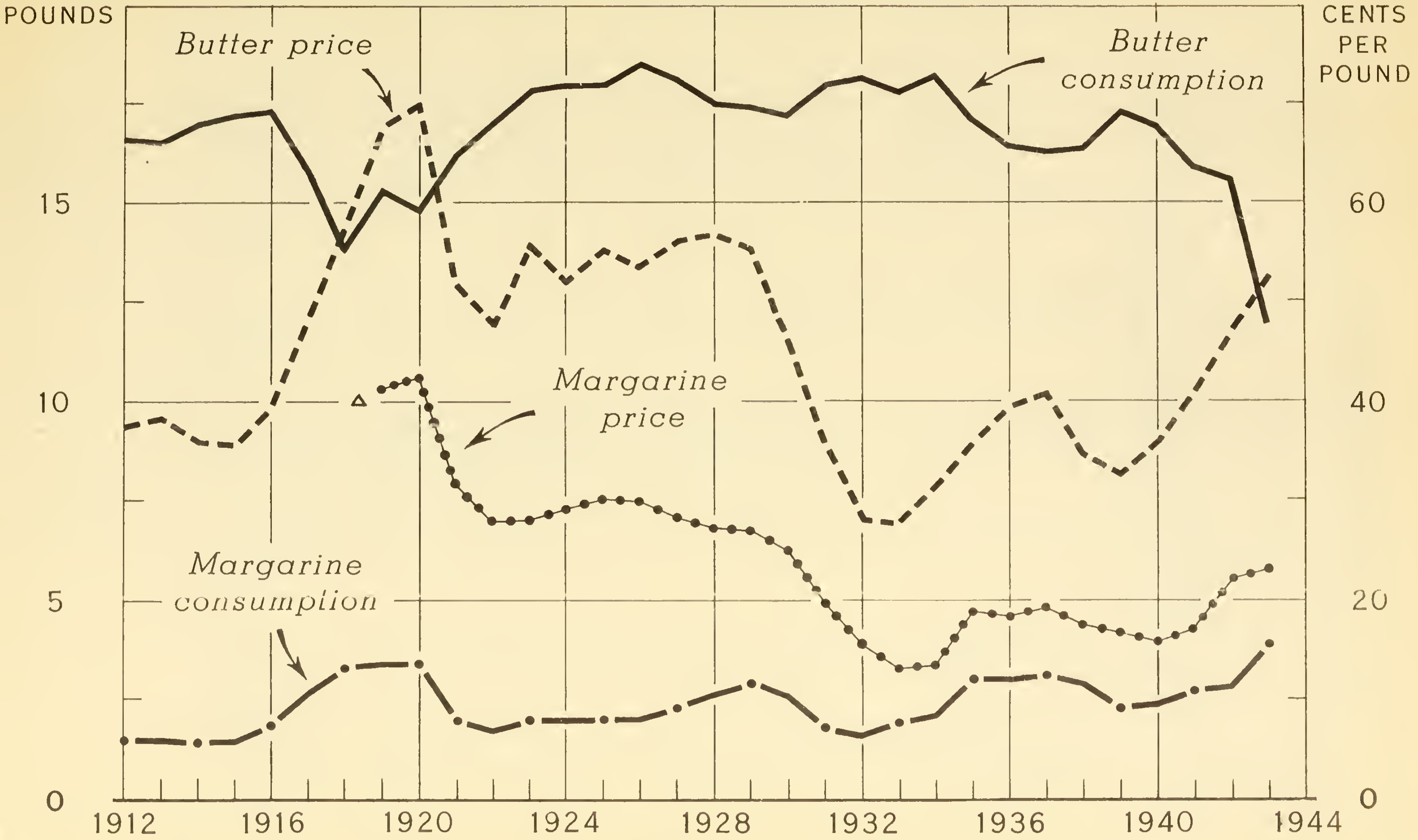
2/ Part of the apparent civilian consumption in 1940-41 was due to the building up of stocks in the hands of distributors.

In 1943, lard consumption was relatively high, 14.5 pounds, despite large war requirements, as the result of record supplies of lard and short supplies of other fats and oils.

Consumption of margarine has increased considerably since 1912 but there have been wide fluctuations, partly because of changes in the supplies of butter and lard, corresponding changes in prices, and changes in income. In 1912 total consumption of margarine (fat solid basis) was 118 million pounds. Peaks in consumption came in 1919-20, 1929, 1936-37, and in 1943. The record rate of 3.2 pounds per capita in 1943 was the direct result of the butter shortage, which in turn resulted from lower production and heavy war requirements. Comparisons of butter and margarine per capita consumption, actual weight basis, and their retail prices are shown in the chart page .

The principal increase in the consumption of fats and oils has been in the use of compounds, vegetable cooking fats, and other edible fats and oils. Total consumption of these increased from .9 billion pounds in 1912 to 2.6 billion pounds in 1941, and was 2.1 billion pounds in 1943. On a per capita basis, consumption increased from 9.4 pounds in 1912 to 18.7 pounds in 1941, but it has dropped somewhat since then. Since 1931, separate data on the supply and distribution of compounds and vegetable cooking fats are available.

PER CAPITA CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION AND RETAIL PRICES OF BUTTER AND MARGARINE, UNITED STATES, 1912-43*



* *BUTTER AND MARGARINE ON ACTUAL WEIGHT BASIS. B. L. S. RETAIL PRICES*

△ *MARGARINE PRICES NOT AVAILABLE BEFORE 1919*

1943 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43582 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports 2/	Stocks, Jan. 1	Total supply 1/	Exports and shipments	Stocks, Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption	
							Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Total food fats and oils 2/							
1912	4,632	90	3/	4,722	1,050	3/	3,672	38.5
1913	4,779	89	3/	4,868	984	3/	3,884	40.0
1914	5,002	99	3/	5,101	802	3/	4,299	43.4
1915	5,250	90	3/	5,340	1,019	4/	4,321	43.0
1916	4,849	232	112	5,193	795	127	4,271	41.9
1917	4,311	359	127	4,797	578	106	5/ 4,113	5/ 39.8
1918	4,866	429	106	5,401	797	148	5/ 4,456	5/ 42.7
1919	5,198	444	148	5,790	1,174	117	5/ 4,499	5/ 42.9
1920	4,907	282	659	5,848	1,008	686	4,154	39.1
1921	5,387	88	686	6,161	1,344	560	4,257	39.3
1922	5,557	88	560	6,205	1,046	399	4,760	43.0
1923	6,207	159	399	6,765	1,265	432	5,068	45.2
1924	6,275	117	432	6,824	1,174	535	5,115	44.8
1925	6,088	121	535	6,744	914	444	5,386	46.1
1926	6,522	141	444	7,107	907	659	5,541	47.2
1927	6,535	103	659	7,297	900	857	5,540	46.6
1928	6,435	112	857	7,404	948	793	5,663	47.0
1929	6,697	146	793	7,636	995	805	5,836	47.9
1930	6,540	123	805	7,468	792	771	5,905	47.7
1931	6,528	109	801	7,438	714	836	5,888	47.2
1932	6,620	89	837	7,546	710	1,087	5,749	45.8
1933	6,688	116	1,087	7,891	722	1,359	5,810	46.0
1934	6,034	104	1,359	7,497	529	937	6,031	47.4
1935	5,532	455	937	6,924	158	819	5,947	46.4
1936	6,189	347	819	7,355	178	982	6,195	48.1
1937	5,938	458	982	7,378	202	963	6,213	47.8
1938	6,614	219	963	7,796	274	1,231	6,291	48.2
1939	6,753	127	1,231	8,111	373	1,207	6,531	49.6
1940	6,906	78	1,207	8,191	297	1,249	6,645	50.0
1941	7,206	6/	1,249	6/	6/	1,100	6/ 6,766	51.0
1942	7,312	6/	1/ 1,100	6/	6/	1/ 884	6/ 6,400	48.4
1943	7/ 8,145	6/	1/ 884	6/	6/	1/ 1,097	6/ 5,938	45.8

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports	Stocks, Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks, Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption: Total	Apparent civilian consumption: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Butter, farm and factory 8/							
1912	1,585	1	3/	1,586	8	3/	1,578	16.6
1913	1,602	4	3/	1,606	6	3/	1,600	16.5
1914	1,679	7	3/	1,686	6	3/	1,680	17.0
1915	1,748	1	3/	1,749	21	4/	1,728	17.2
1916	1,790	1	49	1,840	30	46	1,764	17.3
1917	1,644	1	46	1,691	11	51	5/ 1,629	15.8
1918	1,458	2	51	1,511	29	44	5/ 1,438	13.8
1919	1,640	10	44	1,694	38	54	5/ 1,602	15.3
1920	1,562	37	54	1,653	21	59	1,573	14.8
1921	1,739	18	59	1,816	12	48	1,756	16.2
1922	1,870	7	48	1,925	15	27	1,883	17.0
1923	1,984	23	27	2,034	10	30	1,994	17.8
1924	2,082	18	30	2,130	11	66	2,053	18.0
1925	2,074	7	66	2,147	8	53	2,086	18.0
1926	2,156	7	53	2,216	8	34	2,174	18.5
1927	2,172	8	34	2,214	8	46	2,160	18.1
1928	2,114	4	46	2,164	7	44	2,113	17.5
1929	2,160	3	44	2,207	8	82	2,117	17.4
1930	2,121	2	82	2,205	7	63	2,135	17.2
1931	2,212	2	63	2,277	6	27	2,244	18.0
1932	2,275	1	27	2,303	6	22	2,275	18.1
1933	2,343	1	22	2,366	7	111	2,248	17.8
1934	2,253	1	111	2,365	6	47	2,312	18.2
1935	2,172	23	47	2,242	7	40	2,195	17.1
1936	2,131	10	40	2,181	6	61	2,114	16.4
1937	2,096	11	61	2,168	6	43	2,119	16.3
1938	2,240	2	43	2,285	8	129	2,148	16.4
1939	2,210	1	129	2,340	9	55	2,276	17.3
1940	2,240	1	55	2,296	11	41	2,244	16.9
1941	2,268	6/	41	6/	6/	114	6/ 2,105	15.9
1942	2,130	6/	114	6/	6/	25	6/ 2,067	15.6
1943	7/ 2,026	6/	25	6/	6/	155	6/ 1,550	12.0

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats, and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports	Stocks, Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks, Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption	
							Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Lard 9/							
1912	1,632	---	3/	1,632	556	3/	1,076	11.3
1913	1,628	---	3/	1,628	580	3/	1,048	10.8
1914	1,527	---	3/	1,527	464	3/	1,063	10.7
1915	1,658	---	3/	1,658	492	4/	1,166	11.6
1916	1,666	---	63	1,729	460	81	1,188	11.7
1917	1,405	---	81	1,486	386	55	5/ 1,045	10.1
1918	1,849	---	55	1,904	558	104	5/ 1,242	11.9
1919	1,872	---	104	1,976	788	63	5/ 1,125	10.7
1920	1,911	---	63	1,974	642	59	1,273	12.0
1921	2,064	---	59	2,123	903	48	1,172	10.8
1922	2,261	---	48	2,309	797	49	1,463	13.2
1923	2,677	---	49	2,726	1,074	49	1,603	14.3
1924	2,621	---	49	2,670	986	61	1,623	14.2
1925	2,118	---	61	2,179	719	42	1,418	12.2
1926	2,173	---	42	2,215	733	50	1,432	12.2
1927	2,228	---	50	2,278	717	55	1,506	12.7
1928	2,419	---	55	2,474	801	85	1,588	13.2
1929	2,412	---	85	2,497	866	82	1,549	12.7
1930	2,199	---	82	2,281	674	51	1,556	12.6
1931	2,285	---	51	2,336	601	51	1,684	13.5
1932	2,361	---	51	2,412	576	41	1,795	14.3
1933	2,458	---	41	2,499	612	133	1,754	13.9
1934	2,076	---	133	2,209	458	118	1,633	12.8
1935	1,267	---	118	1,385	115	53	1,217	9.5
1936	1,672	---	53	1,725	137	146	1,442	11.2
1937	1,422	---	146	1,568	163	54	1,351	10.4
1938	1,718	---	54	1,772	234	107	1,431	11.0
1939	2,022	---	107	2,129	311	162	1,656	12.6
1940	2,313	---	162	2,475	232	294	1,949	14.7
1941	2,213	---	294	6/	6/	187	6/ 1,875	14.1
1942	2,385	---	187	6/	6/	91	6/ 1,784	13.5
1943	7/ 2,917	6/	91	6/	6/	162	6/ 1,883	14.5

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats, and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

Year	Production	Distribution - fat solid basis: Exports and shipments 10/	Distribution - fat solid basis: Apparent civilian consumption: Total	Distribution - fat solid basis: Apparent civilian consumption: Per capita	Apparent civilian consumption - actual weight basis: Total	Apparent civilian consumption - actual weight basis: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
			Margarine 11/			
1912	120	2	118	1.2	139	1.5
1913	129	2	127	1.3	150	1.5
1914	120	2	118	1.2	139	1.4
1915	121	3	118	1.2	139	1.4
1916	157	2	155	1.5	183	1.8
1917	244	2	5/ 242	2.3	284	2.7
1918	299	3	5/ 296	2.8	347	3.3
1919	317	13	5/ 304	2.9	354	3.4
1920	316	5	311	2.9	364	3.4
1921	184	1	183	1.7	215	2.0
1922	154	1	153	1.4	185	1.7
1923	194	1	193	1.7	226	2.0
1924	199	1	198	1.7	230	2.0
1925	202	1	201	1.7	232	2.0
1926	209	2	207	1.8	240	2.0
1927	237	2	235	2.0	276	2.3
1928	275	2	273	2.3	314	2.6
1929	305	2	303	2.5	353	2.9
1930	277	2	275	2.2	323	2.6
1931	192	2	190	1.5	230	1.8
1932	167	1	166	1.3	202	1.6
1933	200	1	199	1.6	243	1.9
1934	216	1	215	1.7	263	2.1
1935	309	1	308	2.4	380	3.0
1936	325	1	324	2.5	391	3.0
1937	326	---	326	2.5	397	3.1
1938	312	---	312	2.4	385	2.9
1939	243	---	243	1.8	301	2.3
1940	257	1	256	1.9	319	2.4
1941	297	6/	6/ 293	2.2	6/ 364	2.7
1942	347	6/	6/ 295	2.2	6/ 367	2.8
1943	7/ 500	6/	6/ 412	3.2	6/ 506	3.9

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats, and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

Year	Supply: Production 12/	Supply: Imports	Supply: Stocks, Jan. 1	Supply: Total supply 1/	Distribution: Exports and shipments 13/	Distribution: Stocks, Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption: Total	Apparent civilian consumption: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Other edible fats and oils 14/							
1912	1,295	89	3/	1,384	484	3/	900	9.4
1913	1,420	85	3/	1,505	396	3/	1,109	11.4
1914	1,676	92	3/	1,768	330	3/	1,438	14.5
1915	1,723	89	3/	1,812	503	3/	1,309	13.0
1916	1,236	231	3/	1,467	303	3/	1,164	11.4
1917	1,018	358	3/	1,376	179	3/	5/1,197	11.6
1918	1,260	427	3/	1,687	207	3/	5/1,482	14.2
1919	1,369	434	3/	4/1,803	335	4/	5/1,468	14.0
1920	1,118	245	542	1,905	340	568	997	9.4
1921	1,400	70	568	2,038	428	464	1,146	10.6
1922	1,272	81	464	1,817	233	323	1,261	11.4
1923	1,352	136	323	1,811	180	353	1,278	11.4
1924	1,373	99	353	1,825	176	408	1,241	10.9
1925	1,694	114	408	2,216	186	349	1,681	14.5
1926	1,984	134	349	2,467	164	575	1,728	14.7
1927	1,898	95	575	2,568	173	756	1,639	13.8
1928	1,627	108	756	2,491	138	664	1,689	14.0
1929	1,820	143	664	2,627	119	641	1,867	15.3
1930	14/1,943	121	641	2,705	109	15/ 657	14/1,939	14/15.7
1931	629	107	14/ 660	1,396	94	15/ 733	14/ 569	14/ 4.6
1932	847	88	734	1,669	120	998	551	4.4
1933	714	115	998	1,827	94	1,088	645	5.1
1934	273	103	1,088	1,464	57	744	663	5.2
1935	232	424	744	1,400	26	686	688	5.4
1936	447	331	686	1,464	26	730	708	5.5
1937	489	445	730	1,664	26	820	818	6.3
1938	827	215	820	1,862	25	939	898	6.9
1939	872	125	939	1,936	45	933	958	7.3
1940	900	76	933	1,909	44	860	1,005	7.6
1941	1,010	6/	860	6/	6/	746	6/1,105	8.3
1942	1,141	6/	746	6/	6/	725	6/1,074	8.1
1943	7/1,244	6/	725	6/	6/	734	6/ 814	6.3

Continued -

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution			
	Production	Imports	Stocks, Jan. 1	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks, Dec. 31	Apparent civilian consumption	
							Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Compounds and vegetable cooking fats 16/							
1931	1,208	---	27	1,235	11	25	1,199	9.6
1932	969	---	25	994	7	26	958	7.7
1933	972	---	26	998	8	27	963	7.6
1934	1,215	---	27	1,242	7	28	1,207	9.5
1935	1,552	8	28	1,588	9	40	1,539	12.0
1936	1,614	6	40	1,660	8	45	1,607	12.5
1937	1,605	2	45	1,652	7	46	1,599	12.3
1938	1,517	2	46	1,565	7	56	1,502	11.5
1939	1,406	1	56	1,463	8	57	1,398	10.6
1940	1,196	1	57	1,254	9	54	1,191	9.0
1941	1,418	6/	54	6/	6/	53	6/ 1,385	10.4
1942	1,309	6/	53	6/	6/	43	6/ 1,180	8.9
1943	7/ 1,458	6/	43	6/	6/	46	6/ 1,279	9.9

1/ Does not include stocks of margarine for which statistical data as of Dec. 31 are not available, and excludes other stocks when not reported. Stocks are those held in factories and commercial warehouses.

2/ Total food fats and oils data are the sum of the data for the individual items. Products such as margarine and compounds and vegetable cooking fats are manufactured from imported materials in part, but the import data include only imports of the finished products. Import data for "other edible fats and oils" do not duplicate imported materials used for other food products. Therefore, the data given here cannot be used for analyzing the U. S. foreign trade position in edible fats and oils. Butter is included on an actual weight basis, all other fats and oils products on fat solid basis.

3/ Stocks not reported.

4/ End of year stocks not included since beginning of year stocks were not reported.

5/ Adequate data on military consumption in 1917-19 are not available. Therefore, the total domestic consumption is used and is divided by the total population including military.

6/ The total apparent civilian consumption for the years 1941-43 is obtained by subtracting from the total supply, the lend-lease, and other exports and military takings. Due to wartime restrictions, such data cannot be published, but the total non-civilian purchases (including military, lend-lease, and regular exports) accounted for 9 percent of the total food fats and oils supply in 1941, 16 percent in 1942, and 25 percent in 1943. The per capita civilian consumption for each year is obtained by dividing the total apparent civilian consumption by the total population adjusted after 1930 for under-enumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of the military forces.

7/ All data for 1943 are preliminary.

8/ Actual weight. Excludes butter going into margarine production.

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of all food fats and oils, United States, calendar years, 1912-43 - Continued

9/ Includes rendered pork fat. Lard going into production of other fats and oils products is excluded from all categories except stocks (which are total lard in cold storage) and total exports.
10/ Exports for 1912-41 on fat solid basis were calculated by applying the ratio derived from fats and oils used in manufacture to the total weight of product to the total weight withdrawn for export.
11/ Stocks were not reported until recently but are believed to have been small and fairly constant from year to year; therefore, production is used as the equivalent of total supply.
12/ Production data are derived from disappearance, stocks, and foreign trade data.
13/ Excludes stocks where not reported. Calculated from domestic disappearance plus exports and shipments.
14/ Fat content basis. This category includes compounds and vegetable cooking fats from 1912-1930. Beginning with 1931 it includes only fats and oils used in cooking and salad oils, in salad dressing, mayonnaise, in bakery products, and in minor uses such as fish canning. Stocks and foreign trade figures include data on edible fats and oils.
15/ Beginning of year stocks not available for certain items so end of year stocks are not included for those items.
16/ Fat content basis. Included with "other edible fats and oils" prior to 1931.

Retail Food Prices, Mid-December 1943 to Mid-March 1944

Retail prices of all foods combined declined 2.2 percent in the 3-months period from mid-December 1943 to mid-March 1944. Prices in March 1944 show a decrease of 2.4 percent from March 1943 or an average decrease of 0.2 percent per month. This is the first time since November 1940 that there has been a decrease in the retail price index of all foods from the same month of the year before.

The decline in prices of all foods was caused by sharp decreases in prices of eggs and certain fresh vegetables, which were partly offset by increased prices of other fruits and vegetables, as follows:

	Percent change
Eggs	- 25.2
Lettuce	- 19.2
Carrots	- 15.7
Bananas	- 7.4
Cabbage	- 7.3
Oranges	- 3.5
Spinach	+ 3.0
Sweetpotatoes	+ 10.0
Apples	+ 10.5
Onions	+ 10.8

Because of the unusually large production of eggs in January and February, the supplies available for civilian consumption were substantially increased. As a result egg prices dropped more than seasonally, reaching below-ceiling levels.

Table 4.- Index numbers of retail food prices, and total cost of living, United States, by months, 1942-44

(1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruits and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Total cost of living
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	127	122	124	116
Jan.	116	131	122	111	103	119	109	122	118	116	116	112
Feb.	118	119	122	114	104	118	115	125	128	117	117	113
Mar.	120	112	122	117	105	124	121	128	128	120	119	114
Apr.	122	111	122	120	105	126	122	131	128	123	120	115
May	124	115	123	122	105	130	123	131	127	125	122	116
June	127	120	122	120	105	137	122	133	127	123	123	116
July	128	130	123	120	105	139	122	134	127	123	125	117
Aug.	130	146	126	120	105	135	123	139	127	124	126	118
Sept.	131	155	128	121	105	130	124	143	127	124	127	118
Oct.	131	165	131	121	106	139	125	150	127	124	130	119
Nov.	132	166	132	124	106	145	127	150	127	125	131	120
Dec.	133	167	132	125	106	151	128	150	128	124	133	120
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec.	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124
1944												
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Mar. 1/	131	135	134	124	108	170	130	163	127	124	134	124

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Preliminary.

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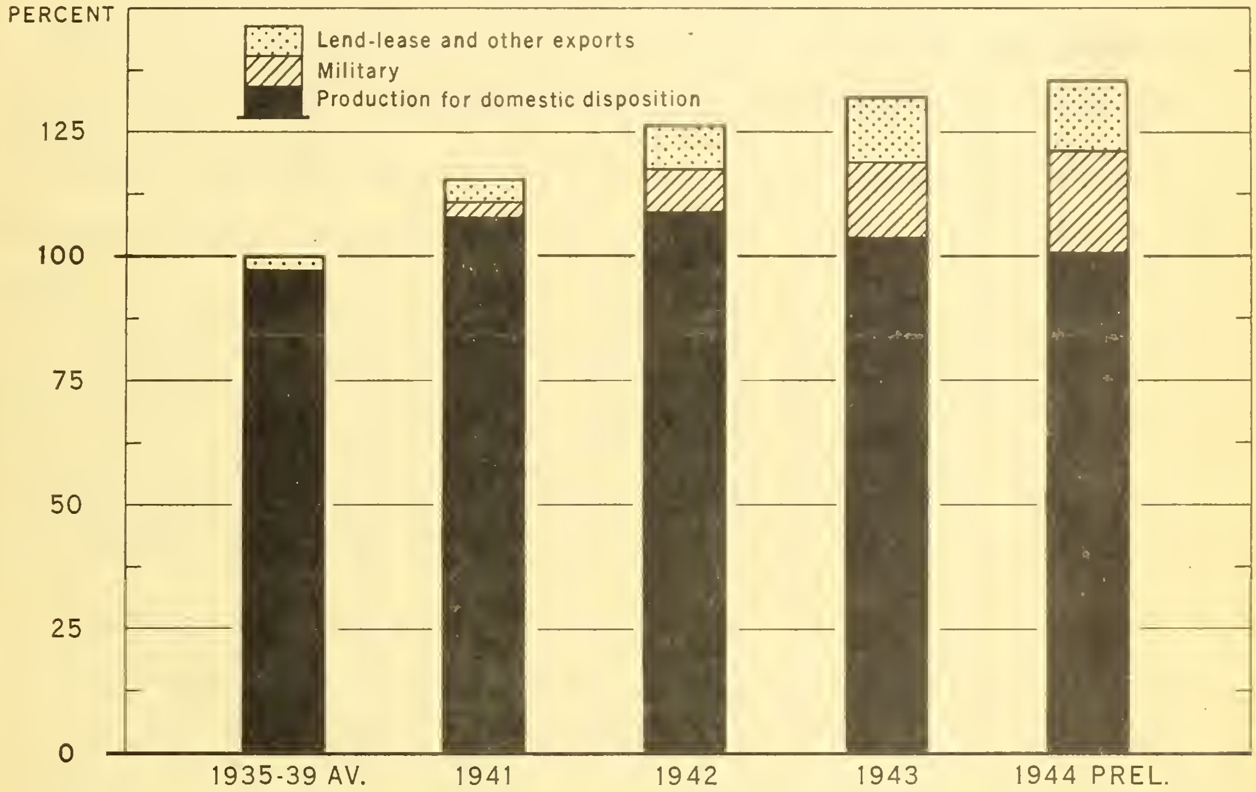
NFS - 16 BAE MAY 1944

MILITARY AND LEND-LEASE REQUIREMENTS COMPARED WITH PRODUCTION OF FOOD COMMODITIES FOR SALE AND FARM HOME CONSUMPTION

INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43703 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Requirements for our armed forces, lend-lease, and other exports have taken an increasing quantity of food commodities produced for sale and farm home consumption. These requirements totaled about 3% in 1935-39 (exports only) 6% in 1941, 15% in 1942, 21% in 1943, and may total 25% in 1944. The total quantity remaining for domestic disposition has been declining since 1942 but is still greater than the average for the 1935-39 period. This quantity is not equivalent to domestic consumption, since no adjustments have been made for imports, changes in stocks, and quantities sold for non-food uses.

The estimate of production for sale and farm home consumption in 1944 is an approximation based on expected changes in total production of each commodity compared with 1943.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Summary

For the country as a whole, most foods will be in plentiful supply for civilians during the early summer. The total meat supply will continue at a high level, although the supply of the better grades and choicer cuts of both rationed and unrationed meats will not be sufficient to supply all that consumers would take. Furthermore, poultry and egg supplies will be larger throughout the summer than last year. Although somewhat less butter may be available during the early summer than during the spring months, the supply will be about the same as for last summer. Other food fats and oils are expected to be plentiful for the next 2 or 3 months. Because of the large seasonal increases in milk production, relatively more fluid milk products, fluid cream, and more ice cream of higher fat solid content will be marketed in civilian channels than in recent months and also more than in the early summer of 1943.

Weather and growing conditions have been generally favorable so the outlook for such fresh fruits as peaches, pears, and apples this year is much better than last year and is above average. The early peach crop is indicated to be more than twice as large as last year's very short crop but somewhat below the 1933-42 average. In addition, citrus supplies will continue large. Marketings of late spring and early summer truck crops are expected to be somewhat larger than last year. Moreover, victory garden production will again supplement the commercial supplies for many civilians. Supplies of potatoes and of canned vegetables are considered adequate.

However, looking several months ahead, the civilian food outlook for some foods is not as favorable as for the earlier months of 1944. Total meat supplies available to civilians apparently will remain large through most of the July-September quarter, although they will decline somewhat from present high levels as production decreases seasonally until fall and as noncivilian takings increase. Civilian supplies of eggs and of fluid milk and cream probably will be less than in the first half of the year, but still above pre-war (1935-39) levels. Civilians may have less butter in the last half of 1944 than in the first half; however, the quantity available is likely to be greater than for the same period of 1943.

Processed foods such as canned fruits and vegetables, cheese, and corn products may be in somewhat shorter supply for the last 6 months of 1944 than for the same months in 1943. The decreases in canned fruits and vegetables may be offset in part by fresh products, and substitutes are available for corn products.

-- May 27, 1944

Meats

All meats, except beef roasts and steaks, were freed from ration points on May 4. Currently, civilians are benefiting from record meat production and the insufficient cold storage and ocean shipping facilities during recent months. Because of the inadequacy of these facilities to meet wartime requirements, some of the noncivilian purchases currently scheduled could not be made, and those planned for later in the year could not be bought ahead. As a result, the largest part of the great increase in supplies is going into civilian distribution channels.

Although total meat supplies available to civilians apparently will remain large through most of the July-September quarter, they will decline somewhat from present high levels as production decreases seasonally until fall and as noncivilian takings increase. This would be true even with a considerable out-of-storage movement in the July-September period. For the year as a whole, civilian consumption of meat will apparently be around 145 pounds per capita, 8 pounds higher than in 1942 and 1943 and, with the exception of the drought year 1934, the highest in the last 2 decades. Changes from present estimates of production or changes in noncivilian requirements could, of course, alter the volume of meat available for civilian use in the latter part of the year.

Total meat production under Federal inspection reached a new record in the first 4 months of 1944, and was 29 percent larger than in the same months of 1943. Pork production increased 40 percent, beef 16 percent, veal 39 percent, and lamb and mutton 3 percent. Federally inspected slaughter will probably make up 70 to 75 percent of all meat production in 1944, a slightly larger proportion than in 1943. Although non-inspected commercial and farm slaughter have increased, the increase has not been nearly as great as in federally inspected slaughter.

Cold storage stocks of meats, exclusive of edible offals, in commercial warehouses and meat packing plants totaled 1,080 million pounds on May 1, only

25 million pounds less than the peak storage holdings of March and April. They were 72 percent above the May 1, 1943 stocks and 56 percent greater than average stocks on May 1 for the last 5 years. The larger part of these stocks will eventually go into civilian consumption. Although these stocks do not represent more than a 2 weeks supply of meat, their movement into civilian channels would make a significant addition to civilian consumption. Storage space on May 1 in meat packing plants was well filled. Total freezer storage available for all commodities in commercial warehouses was reported 85 percent occupied on May 1 and cooler space 82 percent.

Civilian supplies of pork will decrease somewhat, but they still will remain plentiful through the summer and early fall. Supplies of beef and veal probably will be slightly larger in the third quarter of the year than in either the first or second quarter with the seasonal increase in slaughter of cattle and calves.

The quality of meats available for consumption in late summer and fall will be lower seasonally than during the spring and early summer. Lower grades of cattle are marketed in greatest volume in the fall when there is a heavy movement of grass finished cattle. The number of cattle on feed for market in the 11 Corn Belt States on April 1 was estimated to be 23 percent less than on that date last year, and probably was the smallest number in the past 6 years. At the present time last fall's pig crop is being marketed; during the summer, sow slaughter will be large, so poorer grades and less desirable cuts will make up a larger proportion of the pork supply. The smaller supplies of the better grades of meat available for civilian consumption in the coming months may accentuate difficulties in the distribution of meat, since such a large proportion of civilians are financially able to buy more meat of the better grades as well as choicer cuts.

Dairy Products

Increased quantities of fluid cream, fluid milk byproducts, and ice cream will be available to civilian consumers during May, June, and July compared with recent months and the corresponding period of 1943. The War Food Administration raised cream and milk byproducts sales quotas for May and June to 100 percent of sales in June 1943, which were the largest on record. Quotas may be further increased, depending upon local conditions. Since War Food Order 79 was introduced in October 1943, the cream and milk byproducts quotas have been 75 percent. Quotas for use of total milk solids in ice cream were raised for May, June, and July from 65 percent to 75 percent for May and July and 85 percent for June of the quantities of milk solids used during corresponding months of 1942. In addition, the maximum for the milk solids content of ice cream was raised from 22 percent to 24 percent for all 3 months. WFA relaxed these restrictions to more effectively utilize May, June, and July milk production which may be larger than during the same months of 1943.

Civilian cheese supplies in May and June are about the same as in April, but larger than during the preceding months. However, a larger proportion of the cheese for civilians will be of the American cheddar type. War requirements for such cheese during May and June are smaller than last year. With 60 percent required to be set aside, 35 to 40 million pounds per month will be left for civilians. However, as producers of other cheese limit their output to 1942 quantities in accordance with WFO 92, the increase in American cheese supplies will be approximately offset by a decrease in the supply of other cheeses. Civilians have been receiving practically all of the output of cheese other than American cheese.

Total milk production on farms in April was slightly less than a year earlier. It is expected that milk production in 1944 will be about the same as in 1943 -- probably somewhat higher during May and June, and slightly lower during late summer or the fall. Production of American cheese and evaporated milk is expected to be larger this year than in 1943, while butter production will be smaller than a year ago. Retail prices of dairy products continue at ceiling levels, with little likelihood of declines as long as war needs must be met.

Poultry and Eggs

Supplies of eggs for civilians will be somewhat less abundant for the remainder of the year than they have been during the past few months. The decrease will result from the expected more-than-seasonal decline in production after the April-May peak. Even so, civilian supplies are likely to be greater during this summer than for the same period last year. During April the apparent disappearance of eggs into civilian channels was 9 percent larger than in April 1943. Smaller production in the second half of 1944 will necessarily reduce consumption, but considerable stocks will be available for civilian use. Per capita egg consumption for the year as a whole probably will be a little larger than in 1943.

Supplies of chickens have increased considerably from the low point reached earlier this year, and are slightly larger than a year ago. Increases in poultry receipts, together with the reduction of point values to zero for many meat cuts, were reflected in declines in wholesale prices of some classes of poultry, principally live birds, by the middle of May. Wholesale prices of most dressed birds have continued firm at ceiling levels.

Fats and Oils

Supplies of food fats and oils available for civilians from current production and stocks during the April-June quarter are at the highest level since food fats were first rationed. But the present high level is not likely to be maintained beyond this summer since it is largely due to the record high level of lard production and to the lack of storage space. Lard output has passed the seasonal peak, and production next season (beginning next October) probably will be substantially smaller than this season. Later in the year stocks of lard held for lend-lease and liberated areas should be substantially reduced, thus easing the storage situation somewhat. With seasonally smaller production of other fats and oils used for food products, commercial stocks will decline until October. Domestic production of fats and oils is expected to be smaller in the 1944-45 season than in 1943-44.

Butter supplies for civilians in the early summer probably will be somewhat smaller than in the spring months, despite the fact that butter production reaches its seasonal peak in May and June. Although butter production during the first quarter of 1944 was 12 percent below that of the first quarter of 1943, civilian supplies were larger in January-March 1944, because there were no purchases for military or lend-lease use. But now a larger part of creamery butter production must be set aside for Government purchase in May (40 percent) and June (50 percent) than in April when the set-aside was only 10 percent. This will leave about 100 million pounds of creamery butter available for civilian use from current production in May and June compared with about 120 million pounds per month during March and April. The set-aside does not apply to farm butter production, which will be seasonally high during May and June. However, the quantity of farm butter sold is usually small, in 1943 it was less than 3 percent of total butter production. Butter supplies apparently have been adequate to meet consumer demands under rationing through May, according to reports from the principal butter markets. Toward the latter part of the month, terminal receipts have included much more "set-aside" butter. Some trade channels experienced more difficulty in obtaining supplies, and dealers' working inventories have declined from their peak volume of May 1. Civilian supplies in early summer may include further withdrawals from dealers' and other stocks which had been built up during March and April.

With ration point values at zero, total civilian consumption of lard, shortening, and cooking and salad oils is expected to continue relatively high. Civilian lard supplies will still be plentiful this summer. The output of Federally inspected lard in the April-June quarter is expected to be about 15 percent below the peak of 774 million pounds reached in January-March, but about 20 percent more than during April-June 1943. Total lard stocks are now at record high levels, and Government purchases probably will not be as large as in the last quarter. Even under the limitation order which restricts the use of primary fats and oils for civilian products, an increase in the production of shortenings and cooking and salad oils for civilian use is possible this quarter.

Margarine consumption in the first quarter of 1944 was about 128 million pounds, 19 million pounds less than in the last quarter of 1943. Production is apparently adequate to supply over-all demand, even with the lower point values established late in April.

Vegetables

Supplies of fresh market truck crops during the next few weeks are expected to be moderately larger than for the same period a year earlier. In the aggregate, however, these supplies may decline from the high level of late April and early May, since the mid and late spring market truck crops probably will not increase as much over last year as did the early spring crop. For the spring season as a whole, it is estimated that the 1944 commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment will total 1,686,000 tons, 15 percent more than in 1943, and 12 percent above the corresponding 1933-43 average. Indications are that the 1944 spring production of onions, cabbage, lettuce, and tomatoes will be at least 20 percent above the 1943 crops; green peas, celery, spinach, and cauliflower from 5 to 10 percent above; and beets, green lima beans, snap beans, and carrots below 1943 production. Furthermore, victory garden production of fresh vegetables will be available to many civilians to supplement these relatively large commercial supplies.

For the remainder of the 1943-44 pack year, it is expected that supplies of canned vegetables will be adequate, in general, to meet civilian demand. During the late spring and early summer months when large fresh supplies are on the market, demand for canned goods is ordinarily much less. Most canned vegetables are now ration point-free.

Civilian supplies of all commercially canned vegetables in 1944-45, which will become available in late summer to early fall, are likely to be somewhat smaller than in 1943-44. Non-civilian requirements are expected to increase more than the vegetable pack. Intended plantings of vegetables for processing in 1944, as reported by processors, indicate an aggregate acreage of such crops about 3 percent larger than in 1943 and almost one-half again as large as the 10-year average acreage. These intended acreages may be modified by planting time. However, with normal abandonment and yields about in line with the average for 1938-42, the intended acreages would produce a tonnage of vegetables for processing as much as 10 percent larger in 1944 than in 1943.

Supplies of Irish potatoes are expected to continue plentiful during the next few weeks. An increasing share of marketings will be from the new potato crop. Indicated production of commercial early Irish potatoes in the late spring States (normally providing the bulk of marketings in late May and June) is 31.2 million bushels, 9 percent less than in 1943 but 47 percent above the 10-year average. Acreage of commercial early potatoes in the summer season States is expected to be about 4 percent smaller this year than last, but slightly above average.

Fruits

The outlook for civilian supplies of fresh deciduous fruits, including peaches, apricots, and cherries, is considerably better than at this time last year and somewhat better than average. The production of peaches in the 10 Southern peach States, based on May 1 conditions, is indicated at 13.9 million bushels, about 15 percent below the 1933-42 average, but almost 5 million bushels above the May 1, 1943 forecast, and almost 8-1/2 million bushels more than actual production last year. The early peach crop from these States usually accounts for about one-fourth of the total United States production of peaches. Prospects for cherry production are generally favorable. As of May 1 the California cherry crop is indicated to be 29,200 tons -- 72 percent more than the short 1943 crop and 25 percent above the 1933-42 average.

Citrus fruits will continue to provide the main supply of fresh fruits during May and June. Supplies of strawberries for the remainder of this season are expected to continue at a level substantially below a year earlier. However, cherries should become available in late May, and apricots, peaches, and plums in early June.

The citrus crop for the season ending next fall is now estimated to be about 10 percent larger than the previous crop -- with record size crops of both oranges and grapefruit. In the 1942-43 crop year civilians consumed about

60 pounds of citrus fruits per capita, but in the 1943-44 year consumption may average slightly above 65 pounds. More lemons will be marketed than in the spring months to meet the increased consumer demand during the summer. California's crop of lemons is above average. Plentiful supplies of oranges will continue.

Supplies of canned fruits from the 1943 pack are expected to remain relatively small. In view of the generally favorable condition of the crop, the total domestic pack of fruits and fruit juices may be 1/5 larger in 1944-45 than in 1943-44, and 2/5 larger than the 1937-41 average. Despite this prospective increase in pack of fruits and fruit juices, the civilian supply in 1944-45, as the result of heavy war requirements, is not expected to differ greatly from the small supply in 1943-44, but it will be from 10 to 15 percent below the 1935-39 average.

Wheat and Rye

The winter wheat crop continued to improve during April, the May indication at 662 million bushels being 60 million bushels above that of a month earlier. Such a crop would be one-frouth larger than the 1943 winter wheat crop and 16 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average. Precipitation from December through April replenished the soil moisture supply and offset to a great extent the deficiency of soil moisture at seeding time last fall in much of the Great Plains area. April weather further favored soft winter wheat in the important States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, where production during the past 2 years has been short. Some flood damage was encountered in Illinois and Missouri, which in the latter State, reduced prospects slightly below a month earlier. Assuming spring wheat yields equal to those of the post-drought years on the acreage indicated by intentions, and including the May estimate for the winter crop, the indicated 1944 production of all wheat would be approximately 885 million bushels. A crop of this size would take care of all the wheat needed for domestic consumption as food as well as for seed, normal feeding (1932-41), moderate use for alcohol and exports. While the increased indication in May has improved supply prospects, the indicated crop would still not be large enough to permit feeding materially above normal.

The first forecast of rye production for 1944 is 30 million bushels. This is slightly below the small crop of 31 million bushels in 1943, and substantially below the 1933-42 average of 40 million bushels. The crop as indicated is expected to be adequate to supply the 11 million bushels needed for food and 8 million for seed and leave substantial quantities available for feed and industrial alcohol.

Feed Situation

The quantities of meat, dairy, and poultry products available to civilians in the coming months will be directly affected not only by the size of non-civilian takings, but also by the supply of feed and forage available from 1944 production for livestock feeding. The total supply of feed and forage in relation to the numbers of beef cattle, milk cows, poultry, hogs, etc. is an important over-all factor determining both the production and the time of marketing of beef, pork, chickens, milk eggs, cheese, and similar products.

Actual or prospective shortages of feed supplies resulting from a drought this summer, might cause a reduction in the numbers of livestock fed and a temporary increase in marketings of meat animals and poultry. However, smaller quantities of livestock products would be available later on.

In recent months, record numbers of livestock have been consuming feed at an unprecedented rate so that the stocks of grain accumulated from 1937 to 1942 have been rapidly depleted. Flocks and herds were increased to meet the war demand for meat, poultry, and dairy products for current consumption, for exports, and to accumulate reserves for war emergencies. Readjustment in livestock numbers is now taking place in order to reduce feed requirements to the level of available feed supplies. The principal reduction is in the number of hogs and chickens. At the present time, most of the feed for milk cows and other cattle is being furnished by pastures which have made good growth this spring.

Present farm stocks of grain appear adequate to meet feed requirements until a new crop is harvested, but supplies are unevenly distributed and are not moving freely, resulting in local shortages. In general, reserves of old feed grain will be down to a small volume by next fall. Thereafter the quantity of grain that can be fed will be roughly equivalent to the quantity available from current feed grain production plus such relatively small quantities of wheat and rye as can be spared for feeding and such grain as can be imported.

It is still too early for any accurate forecast of feed production this season. In the Corn Belt States, where about three-frouths of the national supply of feed grains is usually grown, heavy rains during March, April, and the first week of May delayed the planting of oats and barley and preparation of the land for corn. Since then, there have been some local interruptions but most areas have made excellent progress. Planting will, however, average later than usual. There will be some changes from the acreages originally planned and favorable weather will be needed to permit a full acreage of feed grains to be planted. Aside from the delay in planting, basic crop conditions appear favorable at this time.

On the other hand, the heavy spring rains have improved prospects for hay crops, pastures and ranges. With the exception of California, parts of some other far western States, and limited Northwestern and Southwestern range areas, the supply of pasturage, hay and forage seems likely to be adequate. If summer droughts should occur, they may cause an abnormally large increase in marketings of cattle in some localities. Conditions at present are favorable for an orderly movement of cattle to market this summer and fall.

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THE National Food SITUATION

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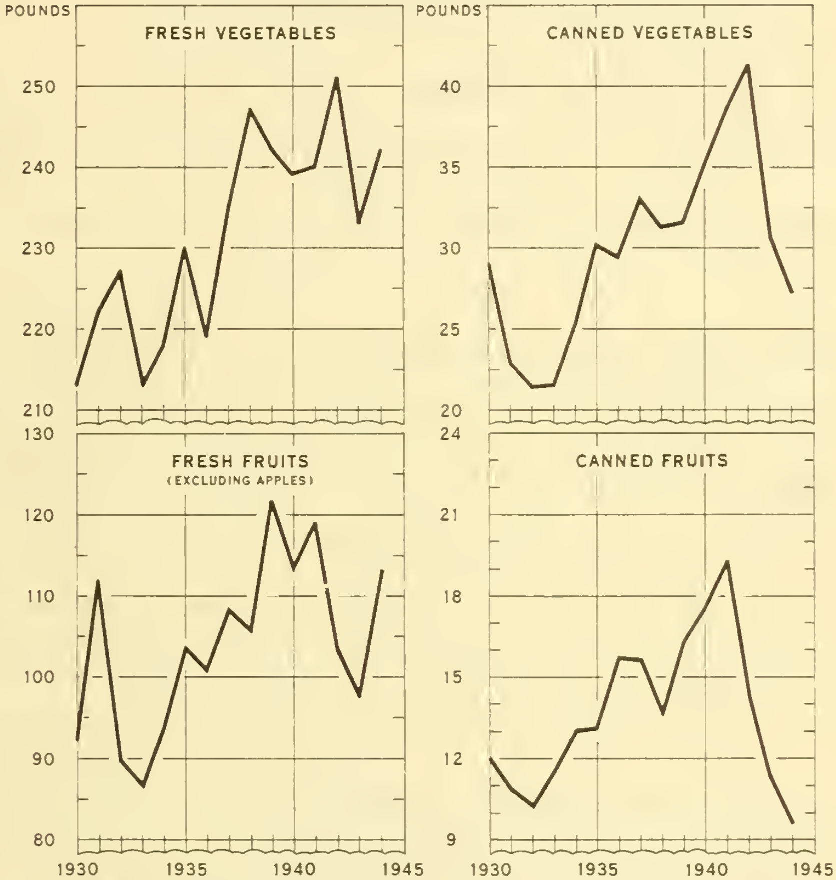
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 17 BAE JUNE 1944

CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, 1930-44*



* ESTIMATES FOR 1943 AND 1944 ARE PRELIMINARY. FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ARE ON CALENDAR YEAR BASIS; CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ON A PACK YEAR BASIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43753 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The per capita civilian consumption of both fresh and canned vegetables increased from the early thirties until 1942. Since 1942, the consumption of fresh vegetables has remained at a fairly high level and has supplemented the canned vegetable consumption, which has been reduced by heavy war requirements.

Fruit consumption (excluding apples) followed the same general pattern as vegetable consumption until 1941. The short crops of fruit in 1942 and 1943 cut fresh fruit consumption considerably and war requirements took a large part of the canned fruit pack. When apples are included with other fresh fruits, the increase in per capita civilian consumption during the period covered is somewhat less.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

Civilian supplies of all the principal foods will be at least as large this summer as they were last summer, but for most foods they will be somewhat below the relatively high levels reached in the April-June quarter.

The total quantity of meats available to civilians in the July-September period is expected to be less than in the past few months but above last summer's supply. Meat consumption in the third quarter is usually less than in the April-June quarter. Poultry marketings will probably set a new record for this time of year. On the other hand, the supplies of dairy products and eggs will be much the same as last summer, but less than in recent months when the seasonal peaks in production were reached. The total supply of fats and oils with the exception of butter will be relatively large in the next 2 or 3 months, and only slightly smaller quantities of butter are expected to be available to civilians in July and August, than in May and June.

Prospects for fresh fruit and vegetable supplies are good this summer and show a marked improvement over last summer. The fresh market truck crop acreage may yield a fifth more vegetables this season than in 1943. Shipments of new potatoes are increasing, even though they are running somewhat below the very large quantities shipped last summer. The 1944 deciduous fruit

crop may total around 20 percent more than last year's short production, and even a little more than the average for the years 1933-42.

For several months, indications have been that this year's wheat production would be large enough to meet all food needs with a moderate margin for feed, seed, alcohol, and carry-over. However, the estimate of a 1,035 million bushel wheat crop (the largest in history) released on June 10 indicates that somewhat larger quantities of wheat than expected earlier may be used for feed, while at the same time substantial stocks may be held for future emergencies.

-- June 24, 1944

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Total meat supplies for civilians will remain large through most of the July-September period, but somewhat below the high levels of the past few months because of small seasonal decreases in production and expected increased noncivilian takings. The demand for the best grades and preferred cuts may be expected to continue greater than the supply. The quality of meats available for consumption in late summer and fall will be lower seasonally than during the spring and early summer. A larger proportion of the cattle marketed in the late summer and fall will be grass finished. Therefore, more of the beef produced will be of the lower grades than in the winter and spring when a larger proportion of the cattle marketed are grain fed. More sows are being slaughtered at this time in proportion to the slaughter of butcher hogs which yield the better grades and cuts of pork. Sheep are being culled out and marketed, so the supply of mutton will be larger in relation to the supply of lamb.

Point values on chuck steaks and roasts from canner and cutter beef, and stag and block bull beef were reduced to zero on June 24 because the supply is larger than the demand under rationing. Although some of this type of meat is used for roasts and steaks, the largest part of it goes into the manufacture of prepared meats and hamburger.

Prospects for the late spring lamb crop on June 1 in the Western Range States were reported as fair to good. However, the number of breeding ewes in the principal late lamb-producing States was 7 percent less on January 1, 1944, than on January 1 a year earlier. The early spring lamb crop was 6 percent smaller this spring than last. A prospective smaller late crop will probably result in fewer lambs for slaughter during the last 6 months of this year than in 1943 and possibly less throughout the winter as well.

Hog slaughter in the 1944-45 hog marketing year is expected to be considerably below the record of the 1943-44 year. The 1944 spring pig crop was 55.9 million head, 24 percent smaller than the all-time record 1943 spring pig crop of 73.9 million head but was only 8 percent under the near record crop of 1942. Farmers' intentions on June 1 were to breed 5.0 million sows to farrow in the fall of 1944. If these intentions are carried out and the number of pigs saved per litter is equal to the 1933-42 average, this would be a crop of 32 million head, 33 percent less than the record large crop in the fall of 1943, but 27 percent less than the near-record 1942 fall crop.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilian egg supplies are expected to continue plentiful throughout the summer even though production is declining somewhat more than seasonally from the all-time peak reached in April 1944. In the early months of 1944, egg production was considerably above that in the corresponding months of 1943 and the number of layers on farms somewhat above the 1943 number. In the past few months the differences between the 2 years have diminished because of the heavy culling of flocks. During the summer egg production and number of layers on farms may be about the same as last summer. With continued heavy culling and the raising of fewer birds for replacement purposes, egg production probably will continue to decline relative to 1943 throughout the remainder of 1944. In the closing months of this year it is likely to be moderately below the record of a year earlier.

The prevailing consumer demand for eggs, supplemented by continued Government purchases for price support, has resulted in increased prices for the seasonally declining supply. The increase in egg prices from spring to fall is likely to be greater this year than it was in 1943. Price increases so far have been most pronounced for top-grade large eggs. Prices of lower grades of smaller eggs also have advanced, but in at least some terminal markets they are continuing below support levels applicable to wholesale trading. The retail price of strictly fresh eggs in 56 large cities covered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics price survey in mid-May was 44.9 cents per dozen compared with 50.2 cents in May 1943.

Farm marketings of both fowl and young stock are the largest on record for this season of the year. Total marketings will continue to increase seasonally during the next several months, with a record large proportion of the calendar year marketings in the July-September quarter. Consumer demand for poultry during the remainder of 1944 probably will be sufficient to absorb all prospective supplies at or close to retail ceiling prices. At the wholesale level or earlier stages of distribution, however, temporary price declines may develop as a result of over-taxed processing, marketing or transportation facilities. Prices of live birds have been depressed somewhat by the increased supplies, but prices of most dressed birds are continuing steady at ceiling levels.

Dairy Products

Monthly supplies of most dairy products are expected to be smaller in July and August than in the past 3 months, but they will approximate the supplies available during the same months of 1943. Seasonally lower milk production probably will result in reduced civilian supplies of fluid milk, cream, milk byproducts, butter, and cheese. No material change is expected in the civilian supplies of condensed milk, but as noncivilian takings increase, civilian supplies of evaporated milk may be somewhat less.

Sales of fluid milk, fluid cream, and milk byproducts (chocolate drink, buttermilk, cottage cheese, etc.) are restricted by means of quotas in order to help maintain the production of war-vital manufactured dairy products. Under WFO 79, the July sales quota for fluid milk will remain at 100 percent of fluid milk sales in June 1943 the base period, but quotas on cream and the milk byproducts will be reduced to 90 percent of June sales; as dealers may transfer their cream and byproducts quotas to fluid milk, this reduction also may result in a reduction in fluid milk sales. During the period of peak production in May and June sufficient milk was produced to permit the sales quotas for fluid cream and milk byproducts to be raised to 100 percent from the 75 percent quota which had been in effect since the program was initiated. Sales quotas for milk byproducts were raised above 100 percent in some market areas because production in these markets was above the capacity of local manufacturing facilities.

July quotas for the use of milk solids in ice cream are 75 percent of their use in the comparable month of the base period (December 1941 through November 1942) the same as in May, but down 10 percent from the June level. In 1943, quotas were kept at 65 percent, so civilian supplies of ice cream in May-July are larger than in the corresponding months of 1943. The permitted milk solids content of ice cream will continue during July at 24 percent, but after July it will be reduced again to 22 percent.

Dairy pastures were reported on June 1 to be in the best condition for that date in 22 years. Even if pastures continue in very good condition, milk production probably will follow the seasonal pattern of decline until the low point in November. However, if the pasture condition deteriorates we may expect more than normal seasonal declines in milk production.

Fats and Oils

Civilians will have somewhat smaller supplies of butter during the summer than were available during the spring, but other fats and oils will be relatively plentiful.

The movement of margarine into civilian trade channels in April, as measured by tax-paid withdrawals from manufacturers' stocks, was 35 million pounds compared with 41 million pounds in March. The reduced consumption of margarine was probably due in large part to the larger civilian supplies of butter in March and April. According to preliminary indications, the civilian distributors purchased about the same amount of margarine in May as in April. In June the civilian movement of margarine may have increased somewhat because of reduced quantities of creamery butter available for civilians out of current production in May and June. Civilian disappearance of margarine in the April-June quarter may total 110 million pounds compared with 128 million pounds in January-March. May and June ration point values for butter were 12 points and for margarine were 2 points per pound.

Estimated quarterly civilian disappearance of butter and margarine per capita, January 1943-June 1944

Item	1943				1944	
	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June 1/
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Butter	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.3
Margarine ...	1.3	.6	.9	1.1	1.0	.9
Total ..	4.2	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.2	4.2

Disappearance includes changes in dealers' inventories. Dealers apparently accumulated unusually large stocks of margarine in the first quarter of 1943 and drew upon them in the second quarter.
1/ Forecast.

Lard for civilians remains abundant. With former limitations on the civilian distribution of lard now revoked or suspended, it may move freely into civilian consumption. The April output of federally inspected lard and rendered pork fat, 222 million pounds, probably was exceeded in May and may be equaled or surpassed in June and July. This would be 25 to 30 million pounds per month less than in January-March. From January 1 to May 31, net movement of lard and rendered pork fat into usual types of cold storage for lard was 328 million pounds, and a substantial quantity also was placed in other storage. With total stocks of lard (most of which are held for Government account) at record high levels, most of the April-July output probably will be available for domestic consumption or export. Lard output probably will decline substantially in August and September, the seasonally low months in hog slaughter. These are also the months of lowest inventories of vegetable oils. Stocks of lard probably will remain large, but they will be held mainly by Government agencies.

Total civilian, military, and export demand for fats and oils probably will continue at a high level in 1944-45. It is expected that domestic production will be considerably reduced, largely because of the decline in the pig crop in 1944, which will be reflected in a material reduction in lard output in 1944-45.

Fruits

Prospects continue favorable for large supplies of fresh fruit during the 1944-45 season. Production of deciduous fruit in the United States in 1944, based on June 1 conditions, is indicated to be about one-fifth larger than the short crop last year and moderately larger than the 1933-42 average.

The 1944 crops of cherries and peaches may be more than half again as large as the 1943 crop. The pear crop may be somewhat larger than last year. Production of apricots in California, Washington, and Utah is expected to be three times the short crop last year. The generally good condition of the commercial apple crop on June 1 indicates the prospect of a considerably larger production than in 1943. A grape crop about as large as the record crop last year is in prospect.

Deciduous fruits will make up an increasing proportion of the supplies of fresh fruit during the summer season. By mid-June substantial volumes of new crop apricots, peaches, cherries, and plums already were moving to market. Production of California Valencia oranges, which supply the summer market, is about the same as last year. However, production of lemons is below last year.

Vegetables

Fresh vegetables are expected to continue in moderate supply during the summer months. The planted acreage of truck crops for the fresh market during the summer is indicated to be one-fifth larger than in 1943. The production of summer truck crops is estimated to be 21 percent higher than in 1943 and 7 percent above the 10-year (1933-42) average, according to June 1 indications. The supply of onions will be plentiful throughout the summer, according to present indications. The late spring and early summer production of onions is forecast at 75 percent more than a year earlier. According to earlier reports the planned acreage of late summer onions is about a third larger than last year. Supplies of cabbage, early summer snap beans, and watermelons probably will be larger than in the summer of 1943. The supply of tomatoes during the summer is expected to be about the same as last year.

Conditions generally were favorable for the planting and early growth of the most important truck crops for processing during the last part of May and early June.

Carlot shipments of new potatoes have been increasing. Although shipments of potatoes from the 1943 crop continued to decline during the early part of June, they were much higher than for the corresponding period a year earlier. On the basis of June 1 conditions, the production of commercial early Irish potatoes in the late spring States was estimated to be 30 million bushels compared with a production of 34 million last year. The summer producing States are expected to have a crop of about 18.5 million bushels compared with about 23 million in 1943.

Wheat and Rye

The new wheat crop is now indicated at 1,035 million bushels. A crop of this size would be the largest in our history. However, the harvested crop may differ from the present indication depending on weather conditions between now and completion of harvest. The carry-over of old wheat on July 1, 1944 is now expected to total about 350 million bushels, which is 50 million bushels above the earlier estimate. Imports have been larger than previously expected and feeding has probably been somewhat less than anticipated. The carry-over and indicated crop would bring the total supplies to 1,385 million bushels. With a 300-million-bushel carry-over July 1, 1945, these supplies would provide moderate quantities for food, seed, alcohol, exports and a larger than usual quantity for feed. The average carry-over in the 10-year period (1932-41) was 235 million bushels.

The first indication of rye production, issued on the basis of June 1 condition, was 31.6 million bushels, 1 million bushels above 1943, but 9 million below the 1933-42 average. The crop together with the carry-over, which is expected to be above average, would be adequate to supply the 11 million bushels needed for food and 8 million for seed with the balance available for feed and industrial alcohol.

Table 1.- Meats (dressed weight): Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period 1/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
					A. Beef					
1930	5,917	104	134	6,155	59		75		6,021	48.7
1931	6,009	75	53	6,137	58		53		6,026	48.3
1932	5,789	53	63	5,905	32		43		5,830	46.4
1933	6,440	43	104	6,587	39		79		6,469	51.2
1934	2/8,246	79	118	8,443	56		141		8,246	64.9
1935	2/6,605	141	201	6,947	53		106		6,788	53.0
1936	7,358	106	226	7,690	54		194		7,442	57.8
1937	6,798	194	227	7,219	51		61		7,107	54.8
1938	6,908	61	200	7,169	53		58		7,058	54.0
1939	7,011	58	219	7,288	52		77		7,159	54.4
1940	7,182	77	168	7,427	55		107		7,265	54.7
1941	8,092	107	302	8,501	98	9	135	235	8,024	60.5
					B. Veal 3/					
1930	792		2	794					794	6.4
1931	823		---	823					823	6.6
1932	822		---	822					822	6.6
1933	891		---	891					891	7.1
1934	2/1,239		---	1,239					1,239	9.7
1935	2/1,022	--	---	1,022					1,022	8.0
1936	1,075		1	1,076					1,076	8.3
1937	1,108		---	1,108					1,108	8.6
1938	994		---	994					994	7.6
1939	991		1	992					992	7.5
1940	978		---	978					978	7.3
1941	1,029		---	1,029		---		26	1,003	7.6
					C. Lamb and mutton					
1930	825	5	1	831	2		5		824	6.6
1931	885	5	---	890	2		2		886	7.1
1932	884	2	---	886	1		3		882	7.0
1933	852	3	---	855	2		4		849	6.7
1934	2/ 821	4	---	825	2		4		819	6.4
1935	877	4	---	881	2		3		876	6.8
1936	855	3	---	858	2		11		845	6.6
1937	852	11	---	863	2		3		858	6.6
1938	897	3	---	900	2		4		894	6.9
1939	872	4	---	876	3		5		868	6.6
1940	877	5	---	882	3		5		874	6.6
1941	925	5	---	930	3	---	8	13	906	6.8

Table 1.- Meats (dressed weight): Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41
- Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period 1/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	D. Pork									
1930	8,482	621	3	9,106	340		521		8,245	66.6
1931	8,739	521	4	9,264	224		563		8,477	68.0
1932	8,923	563	6	9,492	175		491		8,826	70.3
1933	9,134	491	3	9,628	202		630		8,796	69.6
1934	2/ 8,524	630	2	9,156	211		688		8,257	65.0
1935	5,919	688	11	6,618	136		327		6,155	48.1
1936	7,474	327	44	7,845	118		667		7,060	54.8
1937	6,951	667	80	7,698	114		399		7,185	55.4
1938	7,680	399	57	8,136	152		430		7,554	57.8
1939	8,660	430	45	9,135	192		469		8,474	64.3
1940	9,958	469	7	10,434	163		656		9,615	72.4
1941	9,447	656	12	10,115	88	565	459	173	8,830	66.5
	E. Total meats									
1930	16,016	730	140	16,886	401		601		15,884	128.3
1931	16,456	601	57	17,114	284		618		16,212	130.0
1932	16,418	618	69	17,105	208		537		16,360	130.3
1933	17,317	537	107	17,961	243		713		17,005	134.6
1934	2/18,830	713	120	19,663	269		833		18,561	146.0
1935	2/14,423	833	212	15,468	191		436		14,841	115.9
1936	16,762	436	271	17,469	174		872		16,423	127.5
1937	15,709	872	307	16,888	167		463		16,258	125.4
1938	16,479	463	257	17,199	207		492		16,500	126.3
1939	17,534	492	265	18,291	247		551		17,493	132.8
1940	18,995	551	175	19,721	221		768		18,732	141.0
1941	19,493	768	314	20,575	189	574	602	447	18,763	141.4

1/ Cold storage holdings in commercial warehouses and meat packing plants.

2/ Production includes the following amounts slaughtered under the Emergency Government relief program: 1934 -- 1,180 million pounds of beef, 174 million pounds of veal, 21 million pounds of lamb and mutton and 127 million pounds of pork. 1935 -- 57 million pounds of beef and 5 million pounds of veal.

3/ Stocks and exports of veal are included with beef.

Table 2.- Poultry products: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Disappearance					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	A. Chickens (dressed weight) 1/									
1930	2,626	131	2	2,759	3		100		2,656	21.5
1931	2,426	100	1	2,527	3		106		2,418	19.4
1932	2,465	106	1	2,572	1		93		2,478	19.7
1933	2,572	93	--	2,665	2		103		2,560	20.3
1934	2,392	103	1	2,496	2		110		2,384	18.8
1935	2,297	110	1	2,408	2		87		2,319	18.1
1936	2,392	87	2	2,481	1		148		2,332	18.1
1937	2,273	148	5	2,426	2		92		2,332	18.0
1938	2,214	92	2	2,308	2		110		2,196	16.8
1939	2,449	110	1	2,560	3		109		2,448	18.6
1940	2,423	109	2	2,534	2		140		2,392	18.0
1941	2,642	140	2	2,784	3		161	52	2,568	19.4
	B. Turkeys (dressed weight) 1/									
1930	216	10	1	227			5		222	1.8
1931	214	5	5	224			10		214	1.7
1932	264	10	1	275			15		260	2.1
1933	298	15	--	313			16		297	2.4
1934	284	16	--	300			19		281	2.2
1935	267	19	--	286			17		269	2.1
1936	361	17	1	379			35		344	2.7
1937	346	35	--	381			26		355	2.7
1938	355	26	--	381			23		358	2.7
1939	422	23	--	445			52		393	3.0
1940	482	52	--	534			61		473	3.6
1941	468	61	1	530			50	8	472	3.6

Continued -

Table 2.- Poultry products: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution						
									Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Eggs used for hatching	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	Mil. doz.	No.
	C. Eggs										
1930	3,581	66	44	3,691	19		149	125		3,398	329
1931	3,532	125	34	3,691	8		135	109		3,439	331
1932	3,327	109	10	3,446	2		136	50		3,258	311
1933	3,255	50	9	3,314	2		137	72		3,103	295
1934	3,156	72	8	3,236	2		122	72		3,040	287
1935	3,081	72	22	3,175	2		124	85		2,964	278
1936	3,166	85	27	3,278	2		134	61		3,081	287
1937	3,443	61	32	3,536	2		115	112		3,307	306
1938	3,424	112	6	3,542	2		124	59		3,357	308
1939	3,561	59	5	3,625	3		134	74		3,414	311
1940	3,629	74	7	3,710	5		125	77		3,503	316
1941	3,828	77	15	3,920	12	141	147	2/124	62	3,434	311

1/ Dressed weight estimated as 88 percent of live weight for chickens and 91 percent of live weight for turkeys.

2/ Includes 10.6 million pounds of dried eggs and 92.9 million dozen shell and frozen eggs.

Table 3.- Dairy products: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period 1/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	A. Total milk for human consumption 2/									
1930	99,998	3,060	873	103,931	451		2,627		100,853	814.8
1931	102,858	2,821	647	106,326	436		1,708		104,182	835.1
1932	103,777	1,708	566	106,051	332		1,551		104,168	829.6
1933	104,710	1,551	486	106,747	306		3,833		102,608	812.3
1934	101,759	3,833	482	106,074	336		2,417		103,321	812.7
1935	101,355	2,417	950	104,722	326		2,101		102,295	799.0
1936	102,481	2,101	821	105,403	299		3,095		102,009	791.7
1937	102,010	3,095	837	105,942	322		2,362		103,258	796.5
1938	105,783	2,362	558	108,703	384		4,480		103,839	794.7
1939	106,651	4,480	592	111,723	429		2,747		108,547	824.0
1940	109,341	2,747	341	112,429	740		2,695		108,994	820.5
1941	115,196	2,695	268	118,159	1,012	1,977	5,512	2,613	107,045	806.9
	B. Fluid milk and cream (milk equivalent)									
1930	43,273	N. A.	157	43,430	2		N. A.		43,428	350.9
1931	43,316	194	12	43,522	1		54		43,467	348.4
1932	44,069	54	11	44,134	---		152		43,982	350.3
1933	44,065	152	2	44,219	---		156		44,063	348.8
1934	42,287	156	---	42,443	1		55		42,387	333.4
1935	42,974	55	---	43,029	1		89		42,939	335.4
1936	43,925	89	4	44,018	1		135		43,882	340.6
1937	44,253	135	12	44,400	1		23		44,376	342.3
1938	44,358	23	---	44,381	---		174		44,207	338.3
1939	45,223	174	---	45,397	---		85		45,312	344.0
1940	45,591	85	---	45,676	3		95		45,578	343.1
1941	46,900	95	---	46,995	9		228	244	46,514	350.6
	C. Condensed and evaporated milk									
1930	1,761	237	1	1,999	106		220		1,673	13.5
1931	1,683	220	---	1,903	93		145		1,665	13.3
1932	1,780	145	---	1,925	68		112		1,745	13.9
1933	1,899	112	1	2,012	55		219		1,736	13.7
1934	1,908	219	---	2,127	65		167		1,895	14.9
1935	2,032	167	1	2,200	62		82		2,056	16.1
1936	2,270	82	2	2,354	50		268		2,036	15.8
1937	2,131	268	2	2,401	58		188		2,155	16.6
1938	2,322	188	1	2,511	58		212		2,241	17.1
1939	2,367	212	---	2,579	61		192		2,327	17.7
1940	2,731	192	---	2,923	176		196	---	2,551	19.2
1941	3,555	196	---	3,751	226	485	412	207	2,421	18.2

Continued -

Table 3.- Dairy products: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	D. All cheese, except full skim, cottage, pot and bakers									
1930	500	86	68	654	4		83		567	4.6
1931	492	83	62	637	4		78		555	4.4
1932	484	78	56	618	4		69		545	4.3
1933	543	69	48	660	3		92		565	4.5
1934	579	92	47	718	4		102		612	4.8
1935	621	102	49	772	4		100		668	5.2
1936	642	100	60	802	4		110		688	5.3
1937	649	110	61	820	4		104		712	5.5
1938	725	104	54	883	4		120		759	5.8
1939	709	120	59	888	4		109		775	5.9
1940	785	109	33	927	6		130		791	6.0
1941	956	130	20	1,106	11	92	202	11	790	6.0

Year	Civilian consumption	
	Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	Ice cream 3/	
1930	1,132	9.1
1931	979	7.8
1932	727	5.8
1933	700	5.5
1934	844	6.6
1935	937	7.3
1936	1,145	8.9
1937	1,320	10.2
1938	1,325	10.1
1939	1,431	10.9
1940	1,495	11.3
1941	1,834	13.7

1/ No stocks of cream are reported prior to 1931.

2/ Calculated on fat solids basis. Conversion factor for cheese other than American changed from 9.8 pounds of milk per pound of cheese to 9.6 pounds since publication of supply and distribution data in March *National Food Situation*. The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production, while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume.

3/ Very little ice cream enters into foreign trade channels or is stored, so civilian consumption approximates production each year.

Table 4.- Fats and oils: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports 1/	Total supply 2/	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	A. Butter, farm and factory (actual weight) 3/									
1930	2,121	82	2	2,205	7		63		2,135	17.2
1931	2,212	63	2	2,277	6		27		2,244	18.0
1932	2,275	27	1	2,303	6		22		2,275	18.1
1933	2,343	22	1	2,366	7		111		2,248	17.8
1934	2,253	111	1	2,365	6		47		2,312	18.2
1935	2,171	47	23	2,241	7		40		2,194	17.1
1936	2,131	40	10	2,181	6		61		2,114	16.4
1937	2,096	61	11	2,168	6		43		2,119	16.3
1938	2,240	43	2	2,285	8		129		2,148	16.4
1939	2,210	129	1	2,340	9		55		2,276	17.3
1940	2,240	55	1	2,296	11		41		2,244	16.9
1941 4/	2,268	41	4	2,313	13		114	81	2,105	15.9
	B. Lard and rendered pork fat 5/									
1930	2,199	82	---	2,281	674		51		1,156	12.6
1931	2,285	51	---	2,336	601		51		1,684	13.5
1932	2,361	51	---	2,412	576		41		1,795	14.3
1933	2,458	41	---	2,499	612		133		1,754	13.9
1934	2,076	133	---	2,209	458		118		1,633	12.8
1935	1,267	118	---	1,385	115		53		1,217	9.6
1936	1,672	53	---	1,725	137		146		1,442	11.3
1937	1,422	146	---	1,568	163		54		1,351	10.5
1938	1,718	54	---	1,772	234		107		1,431	11.0
1939	2,022	107	---	2,129	311		162		1,656	12.7
1940	2,313	162	---	2,475	232		294		1,949	14.7
1941	2,213	294	---	2,507	170	254	187	21	1,875	14.2

Continued -

Table 4.- Fats and oils: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Production	Distribution - fat solid basis: Exports and shipments 6/	Distribution - fat solid basis: Apparent civilian consumption: Total	Distribution - fat solid basis: Apparent civilian consumption: Per capita	Apparent civilian consumption = actual weight basis: Total	Apparent civilian consumption = actual weight basis: Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	C. Margarine (fat content) 7/					
1930	277	2	275	2.2	323	2.6
1931	192	2	190	1.5	230	1.8
1932	167	1	166	1.3	202	1.6
1933	200	1	199	1.6	243	1.9
1934	216	1	215	1.7	263	2.1
1935	309	1	308	2.4	380	3.0
1936	325	1	324	2.5	391	3.0
1937	326	---	326	2.5	397	3.1
1938	312	---	312	2.4	385	2.9
1939	243	---	243	1.8	301	2.3
1940	257	1	256	1.9	319	2.4
1941	297	4	293	2.2	364	2.7

Year	Supply: Production 8/	Supply: Stocks, beginning of period	Supply: Imports	Supply: Total supply 9/	Distribution: Commercial exports and shipments	Distribution: Lend-lease	Distribution: Stocks, end of period	Distribution: Domestic disappearance: Military	Distribution: Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Distribution: Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	D. Compounds and vegetable cooking fats (fat content)									
1931	1,208	27	---	1,235	11		25		1,199	9.6
1932	969	25	---	994	7		26		958	7.7
1933	972	26	---	998	8		27		963	7.6
1934	1,215	27	---	1,242	7		28		1,207	9.5
1935	1,552	28	8	1,588	9		40		1,539	12.0
1936	1,614	40	6	1,660	8		45		1,607	12.5
1937	1,604	45	2	1,651	7		46		1,598	12.3
1938	1,517	46	2	1,565	7		56		1,502	11.5
1939	1,406	56	1	1,463	8		57		1,398	10.6
1940	1,196	57	1	1,254	9		54		1,191	9.0
1941	1,418	54	1	1,473	10		53	25	1,385	10.4

Continued -

Table 4.- Fats and oils: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	E. Other edible fats and oils (fat content) 10/									
1930	10/1,943	641	121	2,705	109		11/ 657		10/1,939	10/15.7
1931	629	11/ 660	107	1,396	94		11/ 733		10/ 569	10/ 4.6
1932	847	734	88	1,669	120		998		551	4.4
1933	714	998	115	1,827	94		1,088		645	5.1
1934	273	1,088	103	1,464	57		744		663	5.2
1935	232	744	424	1,400	26		686		688	5.4
1936	447	686	331	1,464	26		730		708	5.5
1937	489	730	445	1,664	26		820		818	6.3
1938	827	820	215	1,862	25		939		898	6.9
1939	872	939	125	1,936	45		933		958	7.3
1940	900	933	76	1,909	44		860		1,005	7.6
1941	1,010	860	51	1,921	51	1	746	18	1,105	8.3
	F. Total fats and oils									
1930	6,540	805	123	7,468	792		771		5,905	47.7
1931	6,528	801	109	7,438	714		836		5,888	47.2
1932	6,620	837	89	7,546	710		1,087		5,749	45.8
1933	6,688	1,087	116	7,891	722		1,359		5,810	46.0
1934	6,034	1,359	104	7,497	529		937		6,031	47.4
1935	5,531	940	455	6,926	158		822		5,946	46.4
1936	6,189	822	347	7,358	178		985		6,195	48.1
1937	5,937	985	458	7,380	202		966		6,212	47.8
1938	6,614	966	219	7,799	274		1,234		6,291	48.2
1939	6,753	1,234	127	8,114	373		1,210		6,531	49.6
1940	6,906	1,210	78	8,194	297		1,252		6,645	50.0
1941	7,206	1,252	58	8,514	248	255	1,103	145	6,763	51.0

Continued -

Table 4.- Fats and oils: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1930-41 - Continued

1/ Total food fats and oils data are the sum of the data for the individual items. Products such as margarine and compounds and vegetable cooking fats are manufactured from imported materials in part, but the import data include only imports of the finished products. Import data for "other edible fats and oils" do not duplicate imported materials used for other food products. Therefore, the data given here cannot be used for analyzing the U. S. foreign trade position in edible fats and oils. Butter is included on an actual weight basis, all other food fats and oils products on fat solid basis.
2/ Does not include stocks of margarine for which statistical data as of Dec. 31 are not available, and excludes other stocks when not reported. Stocks are those held in factories and commercial warehouses.
3/ Actual weight. Excludes butter going into margarine production.
4/ The per capita civilian consumption for 1941 was obtained by dividing the total apparent civilian consumption by the total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of the military forces.
5/ Includes rendered pork fat. Lard going into production of other fats and oils products is excluded from all categories except stocks (which are total lard in cold storage) and total exports.
6/ Exports for 1930-41 on fat solid basis were calculated by applying the ratio derived from fats and oils used in manufacture to the total weight of product to the total weight withdrawn for export.
7/ Stocks were not reported until recently but are believed to have been small and fairly constant from year to year; therefore, production is used as the equivalent of total supply.
8/ Production data are derived from disappearance, stocks, and foreign trade data.
9/ Excludes stocks where not reported. Calculated from domestic disappearance plus exports and shipments. Included with "other edible fats and oils" prior to 1931.
10/ Includes compounds and vegetable cooking fats in 1930. Beginning with 1931 it includes only fats and oils used in cooking and salad oils, in salad dressing, mayonnaise, in bakery products, and in minor uses such as fish canning. Stocks and foreign trade figures include data on edible fats and oils.
11/ Beginning of year stocks not available for certain items so end of year stocks are not included for those items.

Table 5.- Fruits: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution					
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period 1/	Domestic disappearance		
								Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	D. Canned fruits (pack years) 5/									
1930	1,329	177	495	2,001	265		247		1,489	12.0
1931	1,089	254	543	1,886	256		278		1,352	10.8
1932	910	278	430	1,618	234		100		1,284	10.2
1933	1,300	100	477	1,877	289		130		1,458	11.5
1934	1,336	130	599	2,065	237		163		1,665	13.0
1935	1,548	182	501	2,231	338		206		1,687	13.1
1936	1,595	206	646	2,447	267		157		2,024	15.7
1937	1,972	157	687	2,816	260		519		2,037	15.6
1938	1,356	519	454	2,329	342		198		1,789	13.6
1939	1,861	198	659	2,718	338		223		2,157	16.3
1940	1,738	217	569	2,524	69		136		2,319	17.5
1941	2,332	218	556	3,106	36	44	214	245	2,567	19.3
	E. Canned fruit juices (calendar years) 6/									
1930	38	---	---	38	---		---		38	.3
1931	51	---	---	51	---		---		51	.4
1932	44	---	4	48	---		1		47	.4
1933	55	1	---	56	---		4		52	.4
1934	65	4	---	69	---		---		69	.5
1935	160	---	104	264	---		6		258	2.0
1936	174	6	235	415	17		1		397	3.1
1937	343	1	290	634	22		9		603	4.7
1938	421	9	224	654	25		41		588	4.5
1939	508	41	313	862	33		13		816	6.2
1940	620	13	353	987	34		7		946	7.1
1941	907	117	416	1,440	57	10	194	56	1,123	8.5
	F. Frozen fruits, commercial pack (calendar years) 7/									
1930	85	55		140			75		65	.5
1931	68	75		143			92		51	.4
1932	60	92		152			74		78	.6
1933	50	74		124			60		64	.5
1934	65	60		125			63		62	.5
1935	77	63		140			81		59	.5
1936	70	81		151			71		80	.6
1937	111	71		182			125		57	.4
1938	129	125		254			126		128	1.0
1939	141	126		267			128		139	1.1
1940	172	128		300			142		158	1.2
1941	208	142	4	354			178	---	176	1.3

Continued -

Table 5.- Fruits: Supply and distribution, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Distribution					
								Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks, end of period 1/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	A. Citrus fruits for fresh consumption (calendar years) 2/									
1930	3,941		173	4,114	272				3,842	31.0
1931	5,664		100	5,764	521				5,243	42.0
1932	4,896		41	4,937	359				4,578	36.5
1933	5,276		32	5,308	371				4,937	39.1
1934	5,349		38	5,387	369				5,018	39.5
1935	6,208		31	6,239	569				5,670	44.3
1936	6,337		37	6,374	474				5,900	45.8
1937	5,966		30	5,996	283				5,713	44.1
1938	7,156		15	7,171	811				6,360	48.7
1939	8,685		9	8,694	674				8,020	60.9
1940	7,908		21	7,929	445				7,484	56.3
1941	8,167		19	8,186	474			143	7,569	57.1
	B. Apples for fresh consumption (calendar years) 3/									
1930	6,215	1,350	7	7,572	769		1,623		5,180	41.9
1931	7,422	1,623	2	9,047	861		1,777		6,409	51.4
1932	5,448	1,777	3	7,228	819		1,521		4,888	38.9
1933	5,319	1,521	---	6,840	536		1,275		5,029	39.8
1934 3/	3,902	1,027	1	4,930	490		1,280		3,160	24.9
1935	4,837	1,280	1	6,118	569		1,395		4,154	32.4
1936	3,617	1,395	1	5,013	433		1,073		3,507	27.2
1937	5,148	1,073	1	6,222	388		1,536		4,298	33.2
1938	3,932	1,536	1	5,469	572		1,275		3,622	27.7
1939	4,387	1,275	2	5,664	411		1,258		3,995	30.3
1940	4,055	1,258	29	5,342	75		1,375		3,892	29.3
1941	4,110	1,375	4	5,489	58	9	1,237	85	4,100	30.9
	C. Other fruits for fresh consumption (calendar years) 4/									
1930	4,504	54	3,300	7,858	187		83		7,588	61.3
1931	5,876	83	2,958	8,917	149		50		8,718	69.9
1932	4,224	50	2,607	6,881	149		78		6,654	53.0
1933	4,049	78	2,076	6,203	139		70		5,994	47.4
1934	4,544	70	2,493	7,107	151		74		6,882	54.1
1935	4,922	74	2,847	7,843	175		84		7,584	59.2
1936	4,241	84	3,046	7,371	216		74		7,081	55.0
1937	5,077	74	3,487	8,638	231		92		8,315	64.1
1938	4,665	92	3,114	7,871	294		135		7,442	57.0
1939	5,132	135	3,012	8,279	192		71		8,016	60.8
1940	4,930	71	2,769	7,770	116		80		7,574	57.0
1941	5,342	51	2,725	8,118	120	---	63	57	7,878	59.4

Table 5.- Fruits: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution						
								Domestic disappearance			
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Commercial exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks end of period 1/	Military	Civilian	Civilian	Civilian per capita
										Processed weight	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	G. Dried fruits (pack years) 8/										
1930	1,150	187	64	1,401	526		198		677	658	5.3
1931	1,016	198	63	1,277	477		198		602	588	4.7
1932	1,121	198	61	1,380	405		274		701	681	5.4
1933	1,028	274	56	1,358	408		273		677	658	5.2
1934	923	273	67	1,262	318		236		708	690	5.4
1935	1,179	236	67	1,482	425		299		758	738	5.7
1936	934	299	71	1,304	362		238		704	689	5.3
1937	1,179	238	63	1,480	453		304		723	708	5.4
1938	1,201	304	56	1,561	480		352		729	705	5.4
1939	1,142	352	53	1,547	333		374		840	823	6.2
1940	816	374	48	1,238	145		230		863	840	6.3
1941	905	235	17	1,156	76	258	157	65	611	600	4.5

1/ Stocks at beginning of the year differ from stocks carried at the end of the previous year where individual series changes or coverage is more complete.

2/ Calendar year prior to 1941; for 1941 data are for the crop year beginning in October or November of the preceding year.

3/ Excludes noncommercial apples beginning with 1934.

4/ Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries (including an estimate for noncommercial), cranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums and prunes (including an estimate for noncommercial), and strawberries (including an estimate for noncommercial).

5/ Includes apples, applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, grapefruit segments, olives (including brined), pineapple, plums, prunes, peaches, and pears.

6/ Includes grapefruit, orange, blended citrus, and lemon juices (single strength juices 1930-40; 1941 includes concentrated juices converted to single strength basis), pineapple, apple, grape and prune juices and fruit nectars. Citrus on basis of year beginning in November of year prior to that designated. Other juices on a calendar year basis.

7/ Principally cherries, strawberries and other berries.

8/ Includes dried packs of apples, apricots, zante currants, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins except for unmerchantable figs and substandard prunes. Data are in terms of natural condition or unprocessed dried weight except where otherwise indicated.

Table 6.- Vegetables: Supply and distribution, 1930-41

Year	Supply					Distribution					
	Production		Stocks beginning of period	Imports and shipments	Total supply	Shrinkage and waste 3/	Exports and shipments	Stocks end of period	Domestic disappearance		
	Commercial 1/	Total 2/							Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	A. Fresh vegetables (calendar year)										
1930	12,066	26,196	452	369	27,017	130	44	473		26,370	213
1931	11,614	27,478	473	254	28,205	192	47	312		27,654	222
1932	11,326	28,660	312	292	29,264	146	37	584		28,497	227
1933	10,473	26,544	584	186	27,314	47	39	384		26,844	213
1934	11,976	27,668	384	171	28,223	60	33	469		27,661	218
1935	11,777	29,526	469	227	30,222	124	66	526		29,506	230
1936	12,077	28,158	526	274	28,958	101	116	466		28,275	219
1937	12,342	30,278	466	262	31,006	99	115	386		30,406	235
1938	12,940	32,500	386	224	33,110	156	134	514		32,306	247
1939	13,111	32,028	514	194	32,736	184	134	512		31,906	242
1940	13,268	31,862	512	236	32,610	154	130	534		31,792	239
1941	12,891	32,183	534	310	33,027	119	130	462	404	31,913	241

Year	B. Canned vegetables, commercial pack (pack year) 4/									
	Supply				Distribution					
	Pack	Stocks, beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks, end of period	Lend-lease	Domestic disappearance		
								Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1930	3,758	311	89	4,158	45	504			3,609	29.0
1931	2,835	504	105	3,444	36	553			2,855	22.8
1932	2,335	553	84	2,972	34	243			2,695	21.4
1933	2,568	243	88	2,899	38	130			2,731	21.5
1934	3,139	130	90	3,359	39	99			3,221	25.2
1935	3,997	99	74	4,170	47	242			3,881	30.2
1936	3,749	242	73	4,064	46	219			3,799	29.4
1937	4,649	219	64	4,932	54	595			4,283	32.9
1938	4,270	595	82	4,947	57	783			4,107	31.3
1939	3,755	783	45	4,583	70	346			4,167	31.5
1940	4,584	346	2	4,932	80	178			4,674	35.0
1941	5,824	178	11	6,013	105	299	113	361	5,135	38.6

Continued -

Table 6.- Vegetables: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply			Distribution			
					Domestic disappearance		
	Pack	Stocks, beginning of period	Total supply	Stocks, end of period	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
	C. Frozen vegetables, (calendar year) 5/						
1937	72.5	8.9	81.4	29.4		52.0	.40
1938	89.8	29.4	119.2	65.5		53.7	.41
1939	72.6	65.5	138.1	72.4		65.7	.50
1940	83.3	72.4	155.7	78.5		77.2	.58
1941	107.2	78.5	185.7	92.9	1.0	91.8	.69

Year	D. Potatoes (fiscal year)											
	Supply			Distribution								
						Used for processing				Domestic disappearance		
											Civilian	
	Production	Imports and shipments	Total supply	Feed and waste	Seed	Starch	Canned	Dehydrated	Exports and shipments	Military	Total	Per capita
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	Lb.
1930	344,817	5,588	350,405	17,073	45,351	1,662			2,591		283,728	136.9
1931	376,317	1,378	377,695	28,747	46,963	2,554			1,981		297,450	142.5
1932	375,692	440	376,132	29,586	45,243	1,343			2,167		297,793	141.8
1933	347,203	2,102	349,305	18,891	47,674	1,399			1,744		279,597	132.3
1934	404,482	547	405,029	44,245	46,976	5,485			2,316		306,007	143.8
1935	376,895	900	377,795	34,512	42,743	1,632			3,001		295,907	138.1
1936	338,955	1,441	340,396	20,053	41,456	2,050			2,504		274,333	127.3
1937	378,448	765	379,213	26,570	45,313	3,970			3,383		299,977	138.2
1938	354,848	1,035	355,883	30,340	44,894	3,172			4,037		273,440	125.0
1939	344,420	1,916	346,336	24,319	42,199	3,106			3,933		272,779	123.7
1940	370,774	951	371,725	28,948	40,777	8,683			4,283		289,034	130.5
1941	364,602	592	365,194	27,055	43,416	6,677	556	5,275	4,195	4,387	273,633	123.3

Continued -

Table 6.- Vegetables: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply (production)	Distribution: Feed and waste	Distribution: Seed	Distribution: Canned	Distribution: Exports and shipments	Domestic disappearance: Military	Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita
	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	Lb.
E. Sweetpotatoes (fiscal year)								
1930	54,577	5,041	6,233				43,303	19.2
1931	67,314	6,013	7,714				53,587	23.5
1932	86,594	7,981	6,632				71,981	31.4
1933	74,619	6,725	7,012				60,882	26.4
1934	77,677	6,122	7,103				64,452	27.8
1935	81,249	7,432	6,043				67,774	29.0
1936	59,765	5,393	6,163				48,209	20.5
1937	68,144	6,705	6,454				54,985	23.2
1938	68,603	7,308	6,294				55,001	23.0
1939	61,873	6,611	5,821				49,441	20.6
1940	52,243	4,369	5,571				42,303	17.5
1941	62,144	5,025	5,202	1,234		1,100	49,583	20.5

F. Dry edible beans, cleaned (crop year)

Year	Supply: Production	Supply: Stocks, beginning of period	Supply: Imports 6/	Supply: Total supply	Distribution: Exports and shipments 7/	Distribution: Seed 8/	Distribution: Stocks, end of period	Domestic disappearance: Military	Domestic disappearance: Civilian	Domestic disappearance: Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
1930	1,354	93	98	1,545	43	126	206		1,170	9.4
1931	1,197	206	17	1,420	43	105	166		1,106	8.8
1932	1,041	166	21	1,228	50	117	125		936	7.4
1933	1,206	125	26	1,357	42	123	200		992	7.8
1934	1,066	200	50	1,316	35	129	115		1,037	8.1
1935	1,333	115	27	1,475	46	121	112		1,196	9.3
1936	1,077	112	70	1,259	38	129	92		1,000	7.7
1937	1,494	92	20	1,606	49	123	245		1,189	9.1
1938	1,472	245	14	1,731	73	123	315		1,220	9.3
1939	1,427	315	14	1,756	133	130	345		1,148	8.7
1940	1,573	345	22	1,940	221	148	350	20	1,201	9.0
1941	1,705	350	16	2,071	208	145	487	77	1,154	8.7

Continued -

Table 6.- Vegetables: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

1/ Official estimates of commercial production for fresh market shipment have been adjusted for small quantities not marketed and estimated quantities processed. The latter deduction was made from some crops for which no official estimate of the processing crop is made or where the quantity actually processed exceeded such official estimates.

2/ Includes production of commercial truck crops for fresh market shipment and rough approximations of production in farm and market gardens but not in town and city gardens.

3/ Shrinkage and waste from commercial onion production.

4/ Data include asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, spinach, other greens, tomatoes, tomato catsup and chili sauce, tomato juice, tomato paste, tomato pulp and puree, tomato sauce, and mixed vegetables (a mixture of two or more vegetables).

5/ Data include asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, broccoli, brussel sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots (mixed), spinach, squash and miscellaneous.

6/ Including garbanzos.

7/ Including baked beans converted to dry bean basis.

8/ Seed used for planting dry bean and green bean crop.

Table 7.- Sugar, raw value: Supply and distribution, calendar years, 1935-41 1/

Year	Supply					Distribution				
			Receipts from					Domestic disappearance		
	Production	Stocks, beginning of period 2/	Foreign sources	Territories	Total supply	Exports and shipments 3/	Stocks, end of period 2/	Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	Pounds (Refined)
1935	1,583	2,997	2,763	1,815	9,158	139	2,417		6,602	96.4
1936	1,807	2,417	2,999	1,868	9,091	80	2,308		6,703	97.2
1937	1,821	2,308	3,280	1,883	9,292	93	2,557		6,642	95.8
1938	2,207	2,557	3,073	1,810	9,647	83	2,919		6,645	95.1
1939	2,321	3,111	2,975	1,872	10,279	150	3,221		6,908	98.0
1940	2,104	3,221	3,006	1,855	10,186	195	3,228		6,763	95.2
1941	2,090	3,228	3,997	1,851	11,166	94	3,627	95	7,350	103.6

1/ Series not yet revised prior to 1935.

2/ Includes invisible stocks in the hands of wholesalers and retailers. Stocks at the beginning of the year differ from stocks carried at the end of the previous year where individual series changes or coverage is more complete.

3/ Includes sugar used in the manufacture of other commodities for export.

Table 8.- Grains: Supply and distribution, 1930-41

Year	Supply				Distribution					
							Domestic disappearance			
	Pro-duction	Stocks, begin-ning of period	Imports	Total supply	Exports, ship-ments, and lend-lease	Stocks end of period	Other than food 1/	Military food	Civilian food	Civilian food per capita
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Lb.
					A. Wheat (calendar year)					
1930	887	593	---	1,480	132	637	209		502	243.4
1931	942	637	---	1,579	113	733	244		489	235.2
1932	756	733	---	1,489	75	717	226		471	225.1
1933	552	717	---	1,269	19	587	201		462	219.4
1934	526	587	8	1,121	28	432	200		465	219.4
1935	628	432	27	1,087	8	428	188		463	217.0
1936	630	428	40	1,098	10	371	229		488	227.2
1937	874	371	9	1,254	50	533	194		477	220.7
1938	920	533	---	1,453	108	647	215		483	221.8
1939	741	647	---	1,388	93	606	205		483	220.4
1940	813	606	---	1,419	37	724	181		478	215.9
1941	943	724	6	1,673	36	1,001	146	10	480	217.1
					B. Rye (calendar year)					
1930	45.4	25.5	---	70.9	.3	30.5	30.7		9.4	4.2
1931	32.8	30.5	.1	63.4	.1	23.4	29.8		10.1	4.5
1932	39.1	23.4	---	62.5	1.1	24.6	27.9		8.9	4.0
1933	20.6	26.6	8.1	55.3	---	26.9	20.7		7.7	3.4
1934	16.3	26.9	7.6	50.8	---	19.6	23.8		7.4	3.3
1935	56.9	19.6	9.7	86.2	---	40.8	39.1		6.3	2.8
1936	24.2	40.8	3.9	68.9	---	25.4	36.0		7.5	3.3
1937	48.9	25.4	.2	74.5	4.3	26.3	35.4		8.5	3.7
1938	56.0	26.3	---	82.3	3.3	35.3	37.3		6.4	2.7
1939	38.6	35.3	---	73.9	.1	34.1	31.7		8.0	3.4
1940	40.0	34.1	---	74.1	.9	33.4	30.6		9.2	3.9
1941	45.4	33.4	9.9	88.7	---	44.2	34.5		10.0	4.2

Continued -

Table 8.- Grains: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution					
							Domestic disappearance			
	Production	Stocks beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Stocks end of period	Other than food 1/	Military food	Civilian food 3/	Civilian per capita
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Lb.
					C. Rice, rough (marketing year) 2/					
1932	41.6	6.4	.7	48.7	16.5	4.5	1.4		26.3	6.0
1933	37.7	4.5	.5	42.7	13.1	6.0	3.1		20.5	4.7
1934	39.1	6.0	.9	46.0	15.7	1.9	4.1		24.3	5.6
1935	39.4	1.9	.6	41.9	13.0	2.9	3.6		22.4	5.2
1936	49.8	2.9	.9	53.6	15.1	6.1	5.6		26.8	5.9
1937	53.4	6.1	.4	59.9	23.0	5.5	3.8		27.6	6.2
1938	52.5	5.5	.4	58.4	22.3	8.1	2.4		25.6	5.7
1939	54.1	8.1	.4	62.6	22.4	9.5	2.2		28.5	6.2
1940	54.4	9.5	.4	64.3	26.1	6.0	4.7		27.5	6.0
1941	51.3	6.0	.3	57.6	26.2	.8	4.7		25.9	5.2
					D. Barley (calendar year)					
1930	302	158	1	461	12	171	258		20	7.8
1931	200	171	1	372	8	110	234		20	7.7
1932	299	110	1	410	7	175	208		20	7.6
1933	153	175	3	331	7	104	185		35	13.3
1934	117	104	12	233	6	83	92		52	19.6
1935	289	83	13	385	8	185	138		54	20.2
1936	148	185	16	349	7	99	182		61	22.7
1937	222	99	20	341	12	132	135		62	23.0
1938	257	132	3	392	16	169	150		57	20.9
1939	278	169	3	450	6	158	229		57	20.8
1940	309	158	3	470	3	186	226		55	19.9
1941	362	186	2	550	3	213	272	1	61	22.1

Continued -

Table 5.- Grains: Supply and distribution, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Supply				Distribution						
								Domestic disappearance			
	Production	Stocks beginning of period	Imports	Total supply	Exports and shipments	Lend-lease	Stocks end of period	Other than food 1/	Military food	Civilian food 3/	Civilian per capita (grain equivalent)
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Lb.
					E. Corn (calendar year)						
1930	2,080	1,398	2	3,480	7		1,154	2,164		155	70.1
1931	2,576	1,154	1	3,731	3		1,571	2,012		145	65.1
1932	2,930	1,571	---	4,501	9		1,882	2,471		139	62.0
1933	2,398	1,882	---	4,280	6		1,551	2,579		144	63.8
1934	1,449	1,551	3	3,003	4		872	1,986		141	62.1
1935	2,299	872	43	3,214	1		1,408	1,673		132	57.7
1936	1,506	1,408	31	2,945	1		826	1,974		144	63.7
1937	2,643	826	86	3,555	6		1,707	1,706		136	58.7
1938	2,549	1,707	---	4,256	148		1,868	2,099		141	60.4
1939	2,581	1,868	---	4,449	33		2,041	2,228		147	62.5
1940	2,462	2,041	2	4,505	39		2,033	2,282		151	63.7
1941	2,676	2,033	1	4,710	20	12	2,196	2,320	2	160	67.5
					F. Oats (calendar year)						
1930	1,275	671	---	1,946	4		773	1,123		46	11.9
1931	1,124	773	---	1,898	5		673	1,171		49	12.6
1932	1,255	673	---	1,928	5		794	1,084		45	11.5
1933	736	794	---	1,530	3		506	982		39	9.9
1934	544	506	---	1,050	1		369	644		36	9.1
1935	1,210	369	10	1,589	1		821	735		32	8.0
1936	793	821	---	1,614	1		522	1,060		31	7.7
1937	1,177	522	---	1,699	8		734	927		30	7.4
1938	1,089	734	---	1,823	10		724	1,058		31	7.6
1939	958	724	4	1,686	1		615	1,038		32	7.8
1940	1,245	615	12	1,872	1		801	1,037		33	7.9
1941	1,181	801	6	1,988	4	4	761	1,185	1	33	8.0

Continued -

Table 8.- Grains: Per capita consumption of food products, 1930-41 - Continued

Year	Wheat		Rye flour	Rice (milled)	Corn					Oatmeal	Barley food products 4/
	Flour	Cereal			Meal	Cereal	Sirup	Sugar	Starch		
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1930	169.4	3.5	3.2	5.7	28.0	3.0	7.4	6.8	1.5	6.0	4.7
1931	164.4	3.5	3.5	5.3	26.4	3.0	6.6	6.4	1.3	6.3	4.7
1932	157.9	3.5	3.0	6.0	26.3	2.4	5.8	6.2	1.0	5.7	3.7
1933	153.1	3.5	2.6	4.7	25.4	1.9	7.3	6.6	1.4	4.9	2.6
1934	153.8	3.5	2.5	5.6	25.0	1.6	7.3	5.0	1.4	4.5	1.9
1935	151.4	3.5	2.1	5.2	24.5	1.4	6.8	2.8	1.2	4.0	1.3
1936	157.3	3.5	2.5	5.9	24.4	1.6	8.4	3.3	1.4	3.9	1.3
1937	153.4	3.6	2.8	6.2	23.5	1.8	7.5	3.2	1.3	3.8	1.0
1938	154.6	3.7	2.1	5.7	23.2	1.9	7.7	3.1	1.3	3.8	1.2
1939	154.1	3.9	2.6	6.2	23.7	1.9	8.0	3.4	1.4	3.8	1.1
1940	151.5	3.8	3.0	6.0	23.7	1.9	7.9	3.4	1.3	3.9	1.1
1941	152.7	3.7	3.2	5.7	22.5	2.3	8.7	4.7	1.5	4.0	1.3

1/ Other includes feed, seed, alcohol, industrial uses, and adjustment factor.

2/ Year begins August 1 for Southern States, October 1 for California. Data for years prior to 1932 not available. Conversion on basis of pounds of table rice (heads, second heads, and screenings) produced annually from 100 pounds of rough rice. Per capita on refined basis.

3/ Includes corn and barley used in malt beverages as well as products for direct consumption. Oats used for oatmeal only.

4/ Barley consumed in products other than malt beverages, expressed in terms of malt equivalent. Includes quantity consumed as pearl barley, flour and malt extract which are insignificant on a per capita basis.

Table 9.- Beverages: Supply and distribution, calendar years 1930-41

Year	Supply			Distribution				
	Stocks, beginning of period 1/	Imports	Total supply	Stocks, end of period 1/	Commercial exports and shipments	Apparent disappearance		
						Military	Civilian	Civilian per capita
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.
A. Coffee (green bean basis)								
1930	92	1,591	1,683	123	9		1,551	12.5
1931	123	1,736	1,859	240	7		1,612	12.9
1932	240	1,491	1,731	171	5		1,555	12.4
1933	171	1,578	1,749	142	7		1,600	12.7
1934	142	1,529	1,671	95	9		1,567	12.3
1935	95	1,760	1,855	130	8		1,717	13.4
1936	130	1,744	1,874	101	9		1,764	13.7
1937	101	1,706	1,807	78	10		1,719	13.3
1938	78	1,990	2,068	121	9		1,938	14.8
1939	121	2,017	2,138	160	14		1,964	14.9
1940	160	2,061	2,221	153	11		2,057	15.5
1941	453	2,255	2,708	551	5	92	2,060	15.5
B. Tea								
1930		84	84				84	.7
1931		85	85				86	.7
1932		94	94				94	.7
1933		96	96				96	.8
1934		74	74				74	.6
1935	36	86	122	39			83	.6
1936	39	81	120	38			82	.5
1937	38	94	132	43			89	.7
1938	43	81	124	37			87	.7
1939	37	97	134	42			92	.7
1940	42	97	139	51			88	.7
1941	51	107	158	49	5	---	104	.8
C. Cocoa beans								
1930	54	365	419	48			371	3.0
1931	48	408	456	36			420	3.4
1932	36	471	507	104			403	3.2
1933	104	465	569	134			435	3.4
1934	134	431	565	125			440	3.5
1935	125	597	722	114			608	4.7
1936	114	607	721	74			647	5.0
1937	74	596	670	157			513	4.0
1938	157	441	598	139			459	3.5
1939	139	641	780	160			620	4.7
1940	160	679	839	194			645	4.9
1941	548	693	1,241	566	38	---	637	4.8

1/ Partial stock series for coffee and cocoa beans from trade journals, 1930-40, Department of Commerce series, 1941. Data on stocks of tea not available prior to 1935.

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THE National Food SITUATION

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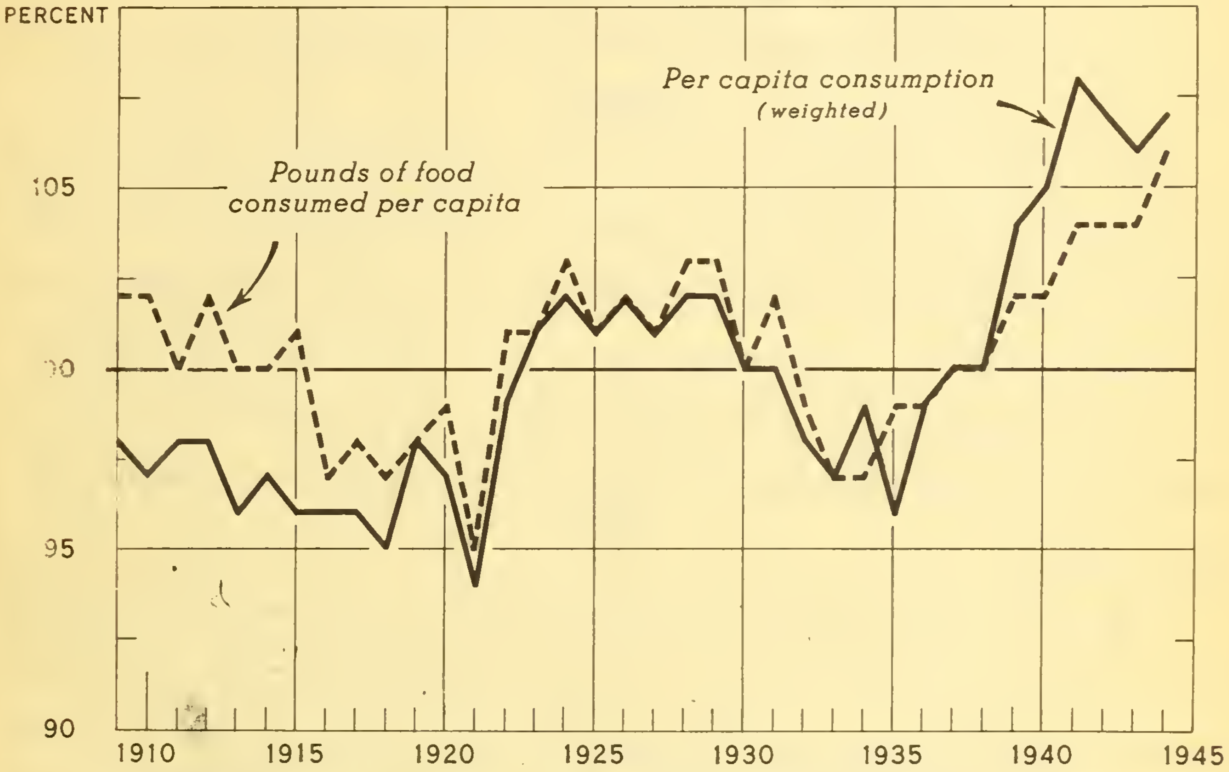
PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FOODS*, 1909-44

INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



* AVERAGE FOR TOTAL POPULATION, 1909-40; AVERAGE FOR CIVILIAN POPULATION 1941-44.
DATA ON MILITARY CONSUMPTION 1917-19 ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43786 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Although the per capita consumption of foods in terms of pounds tends to remain fairly stable, the index of consumption weighted by the average retail prices of foods during the base period, 1935-39, has shown an upward trend. This fact is accounted for by the shift from cheaper foods, such as potatoes and grain products, to the more expensive types, such as dairy products, fruits and vegetables. The nutritional analysis of the national average diet indicates that a general improvement in the nutritive content has accompanied these shifts.

The data presented in the above chart do not include the estimated production of vegetables in city victory gardens. If such production were included, the weighted index would be one point higher in both 1943 and 1944, which would indicate that per capita consumption in 1944 may equal the all-time record of 1941.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

Civilian food consumption for the year 1944 is expected to equal that of 1943. When allowances are made for probable production of town and city gardens, consumption in both years reaches the peak 1941 level, which was 8 percent above the average of 1935-39. Food supplies as a whole will be relatively plentiful this fall and winter because the somewhat smaller supplies of meats and dairy products will be offset by larger supplies of fresh fruits and vegetables and cereal products.

The civilian food supply is being maintained at this high level despite large war requirements because of the tremendous increase in total food production since the beginning of the war. The volume of agricultural production of foods for sale and farm home use in 1944 is expected to be 38 percent above the 1935-39 average and almost 5 percent larger than last year. Most of this increase over 1943 is in food grains,-- principally wheat, fruits, truck crops and meats.

For the last half of 1944, the supplies of meat available for civilian consumption may be somewhat below the rate of consumption in the first 6 months. The average for the entire year is now estimated at about 143 pounds, 6 pounds above 1943, and 17 pounds above the 1935-39 average annual rate. The expected reduction in meat supplies for the rest of 1944 will result from a small reduction in meat output and increased non-civilian demands. Supplies of most dairy products will also be less in coming months as production decreases seasonally. There will be less butter for civilians in the July-September quarter than in either of the previous quarters and probably still less in the last quarter of 1944. For the year as a whole, however, butter consumption by civilians may average close to 12 pounds per capita, approximately the same as last year's average. A relatively good supply of other fats and oils will be available until October. Lard production for 1944-45 (year beginning October) is expected to fall off markedly. The 1944-45 production of other fats and oils is forecast to be below that of 1943-44.

Poultry supplies will be seasonally large in the next few months, much above average but somewhat below the very high level reached in the corresponding months of 1943. Egg supplies will also be above normal, but they will be reduced from the abundance of the past few months by what may prove to be greater than usual seasonal decreases in production.

This year's crop of apples and other major deciduous fruits is expected to total a fifth larger than last year's short crop. With record citrus crops in both 1943-44 and in 1944-45, as now indicated, the fruit supply during the coming months will be fairly large. Civilian fruit juice supplies for this year are about a fourth larger than in 1943. However, the supply of canned fruit for civilian consumption in 1944-45 may even be a little less than in 1943-44, because the increase in non-civilian requirements may be greater than the expected 47 percent increase in the pack. About the same situation holds for vegetables -- increased supplies of fresh vegetables and a smaller supply of canned goods for civilians despite a larger pack. However, the civilian consumption of commercially produced canned and fresh fruits and vegetables will be supplemented by home-canned supplies and victory garden produce.

For the first time in 3 years the prospective domestic wheat crop appears to be large enough to cover expected food and non-food needs, without reducing the size of the carry-over. As of July 1, the indicated crop was 1,128 million bushels, which would be the largest in our history. Total utilization for food, seed, and industrial alcohol is expected to be about the same as in the year just past, with materially less wheat being used for feed. On the basis of indications on July 1 that rye production this year would be only slightly less than last year, and rice production about equal to last year, sufficient quantities of these grains will be available for food use in 1944-45.

-- July 24, 1944

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption, and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941-44, with percentage comparisons

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1942 1/	1943 1/	1944 2/	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Food grains 3/	131	139	114	156	137
Truck crops 4/	116	129	121	138	114
Fruits and nuts 5/	113	117	106	119	112
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 6/	100	104	128	112	88
Sugar crops 7/	97	110	80	83	104
Total food crops 8/	116	124	116	132	114
Meat animals 9/	118	132	150	156	104
Poultry 10/	116	131	152	150	99
Dairy products 11/	110	114	113	113	100
Total food livestock	115	126	138	141	102
Total food production	115	125	132	138	105
Total agricultural production	113	124	129	131	102
Civilian per capita food consumption	108	107	106	107	101

1/ Revised on basis of May 1944 disposition reports.

2/ Production indexes are based on the July crop report and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1944.

3/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

4/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for manufacture (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

5/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

6/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes.

7/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

8/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

9/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

10/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

11/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944 with percentage comparisons [1]

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	60.5	61.2	49.8	53	97	106
Veal	8.0	7.6	8.0	7.9	10	125	127
Lamb and mutton	6.7	6.8	7.2	6.3	6	90	95
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	66.5	61.5	72.6	74	132	102
Total meats	125.6	141.4	137.9	136.6	143	114	105
Poultry products							
Eggs [2]	37.3	38.8	38.9	42.9	43.2	116	101
Chickens (dressed weight)	17.9	19.4	21.5	28.1	24.1	135	86
Turkeys (dressed weight)	2.6	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.0	115	94
Dairy products							
Total milk	801.3	806.9	839.7	767.2	777.3	97	101
Cheese	5.5	6.0	6.3	5.1	4.9	89	96
Condensed and evaporated milk	16.7	18.2	18.9	18.8	15.0	90	80
Fluid milk and cream	340.1	350.6	371.8	402.6	410.9	121	102
Fats and oils							
Butter, farm and factory	16.7	15.9	15.6	11.9	12.0	72	101
Lard	10.9	14.1	13.5	14.5	14.8	136	102
Shortening (fat content)	11.7	10.4	8.9	9.6	9.9	85	103
Margarine (fat content)	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.2	3.1	135	97
Other food products and uses (fat content)	6.4	8.4	8.2	6.4	5.8	91	91
Total fats and oils	48.0	51.0	48.4	45.6	45.6	95	100
Fruits							
Citrus	48.8	59.7	57.0	59.7	66.9	137	112
Apples (commercial)	30.2	30.9	26.8	23.0	24.8	82	108
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	59.4	46.2	36.6	50.9	86	139
Processed							
Canned fruits	14.9	19.3	14.2	11.0	9.7	65	88
Canned juices	4.1	8.5	6.9	6.2	7.7	188	124
Frozen	.7	1.3	1.7	1.4	2.0	286	143
Dried	5.6	4.5	4.3	5.5	4.5	80	82

Continued -

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Pct.	Pct.
Vegetables							
Fresh	235.3	240.5	250.7	232.9	248.1	105	107
Canned	31.1	38.6	41.3	31.5	30.3	97	96
Frozen	3/ .4	.7	1.1	.8	1.5	375	188
Potatoes	130.5	123.3	118.7	139.0	121.5	93	87
Sweetpotatoes	23.3	20.5	19.3	21.7	18.4	79	85
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.7	9.1	9.7	8.8	100	91
Sugar (refined)	96.5	103.6	86.2	80.3	81.1	84	101
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	23.9	22.5	21.8	22.6	22.6	95	100
Corn sirup	7.7	8.7	14.3	10.5	10.1	131	96
Corn starch	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	115	94
Corn sugar	3.2	4.7	5.5	4.6	4.4	138	96
Breakfast food	1.7	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.5	147	96
Hominy	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	150	100
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.8	4.7	121	98
Barley:							
Barley food products 4/	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	125	100
Wheat:							
Flour 5/	154.0	152.5	153.9	159.3	159.6	104	100
Breakfast food	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	103	100
Rye:							
Rye flour	2.4	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.8	158	100
Rice milled	5.8	5.6	6.5	5.8	6.1	105	105
Beverages							
Coffee 6/	14.0	15.5	13.4	13.1	15.6	111	119
Tea	.7	.8	.5	.5	.6	86	120
Cocoa	4.4	4.8	3.8	2.9	3.5	80	121

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of military personnel. It is assumed that approximately 15 percent of food consumed by military personnel is obtained through normal distribution channels.

1/ Data for 1943 and 1944 are preliminary. Calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July 1; fresh citrus fruits, sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year. For more detailed explanation see footnotes table 3. 2/ In terms of number of eggs the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 311 in 1941, 311 in 1942, 343 in 1943, and 345 in 1944. 3/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. 4/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent. 5/ Includes white, whole wheat, and semolina flour. 6/ Green bean basis.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilian meat supplies for the second half of 1944 are expected to be somewhat below the high level reached in the first six months, perhaps as much as 8 to 10 percent. Consumption for the year 1944 may average 143 pounds per capita, compared with 137 pounds in 1943. The decrease in civilian meat supplies for the last half of the year will result from slightly smaller meat output and larger non-civilian meat requirements. Storage facilities were not adequate to carry over any larger quantities of meat from the periods of peak production to the latter part of the year. Therefore, civilian consumers have benefited from large supplies during the spring and summer. Ration points were removed from most meats on May 4, but on July 2 point values were increased on the more popular cuts of beef and lamb, to aid in the uniform distribution of present supplies.

Total meat production in 1944 probably will reach 25 billion pounds, dressed weight, another all-time record. This represents an increase of 4 percent over 1943, 29 percent over 1941, and half again as much as the average meat production in the 1935-39 period. Although there has been a 29 percent increase in production since 1941, so much of our total meat supply must be used to fill non-civilian requirements this year that civilian per capita consumption will be about the same as in 1941. Further increases in meat production can not be expected in the next few years because of limiting factors such as feed supplies and man-power.

Civilian consumption of pork in 1944 may amount to 74 pounds per capita, one pound above the 1943 rate, but much less pork will be available for civilian consumption in the July-December period than in January-June. The 1944 spring pig crop was about 24 percent smaller than the 1943 crop so hog slaughter will be reduced in the last three months of the year from the same period a year earlier. Although pork output for the year may be 13.3 billion pounds, about equal to 1943, production in the last half of 1944 will be about 15 percent smaller than in the first half, and in July-December, 1943.

Civilian beef and veal consumption this year may average about the same, on a per capita basis, as during the 1935-39 period but some 10 percent below the high level of 1941. The decrease in consumption since 1941 has been caused by heavy non-civilian takings. Slightly less than 1/4 of the total beef and veal supplies and a little more than 1/4 of the pork supply are being used to fill military and lend-lease requirements. However, production of beef and veal has increased less than 20 percent since 1941 whereas production of pork has increased 40 percent.

During the coming months, seasonal increases in beef and veal production are expected. Output may total 10.8 billion pounds this year, 11 percent more than in 1943. The seasonal peak of the slaughter of cattle and calves will probably be reached in October. Present indications point to a slaughter of about 32 million cattle and calves this year, which would leave about the same number of cattle on farms at the end of this year as the record of January 1, 1944.

Civilian supplies of lamb and mutton for the year 1944 are expected to decrease slightly from the 1943 consumption. This results from the smaller lamb crop, which will more than offset increased slaughter of mature sheep during the first 6 months of the year.

Poultry and Eggs

Per capita consumption of eggs in the calendar year 1944 is now estimated at 345 eggs, about the same as last year and well above the average of 298 in 1935-39. Disappearance of eggs into civilian channels during the first half of 1944 was slightly larger than in the corresponding period of last year. About the same quantities of eggs will be available for civilian consumption in the last six months of 1944 as the record supplies of the corresponding period of 1943. Because of heavy culling of flocks and the raising of fewer birds for replacement, egg production is expected to decline a little more than seasonally until the annual low point is reached in November. However, record quantities of frozen egg and reasonably large storage holdings of shell eggs are available to supplement production.

Egg prices were below ceilings in practically all of the first six months of 1944 largely because of temporarily over-taxed marketings, packing, storage and transportation facilities. The retail price of strictly fresh eggs in major cities reported by the B. L. S. averaged 8 percent lower than a year earlier during the first half of 1944. With somewhat smaller civilian supplies than during January-June 1944 and continued heavy demand during the second half of the year, egg prices will rise seasonally until the annual peak is reached sometime in the fall, but maximum price regulations will act to prevent price rises above levels of a year earlier.

Civilian supplies of chickens will be seasonally large during the second half of 1944 but probably will begin to decline seasonally at an earlier date this year than last. Toward the end of the year supplies probably will be considerably smaller than in late 1943. Slaughter of chickens for civilian consumption in the United States during 1944 as a whole is likely to average 24.1 pounds per capita, 14 percent less than in 1943. Marketings of chickens during the first half of 1944 were a little larger than a year earlier. With more abundant supplies of other meats, the demand for chicken at ceiling prices was more nearly met than it was in the first six months of 1943.

Total marketings of turkey in 1944 probably will be somewhat larger than in 1943, but with larger purchases for the armed forces, supplies for civilians may be a little smaller. Over-all demand for turkeys at ceilings will greatly exceed available supplies. War Food Order 106 requires that all turkeys marketed in certain areas be sold only to processors authorized to dress birds for the armed forces until non-civilian requirements are met.

Dairy Products

Civilian supplies of most dairy products for the last half of 1944 may be somewhat smaller than during the same period of 1943 and below those of the first 6 months of 1944. Total milk production for the third and fourth quarters may equal that of the same quarters last year, but increased noncivilian requirements will reduce the quantity of total milk available for civilians. For the full year 1944, however, total civilian milk consumption may average 777 pounds per capita (milk equivalent basis) slightly above the 1943 average, but 8 percent below the peak of 840 pounds reached in 1942. About the same amount of butter, less cheese, condensed and evaporated milk, and fluid cream may be consumed by civilians on a per capita basis in 1944 than in 1943. The small increase in fluid milk consumption and in net milk used for ice cream will a little more than offset the above mentioned decreases.

Although sales of fluid milk, fluid cream, and milk byproducts are limited by WFO 79, fluid milk consumption during July-December 1944 is expected to be greater than the record consumption in the last half of 1943, accompanied by smaller consumption of fluid cream and milk byproducts.

Present indications are that the per capita civilian consumption of evaporated milk will be down to around 13 pounds during 1944 because of heavy lend-lease and military requirements, 4 pounds below the 1943 level. Production of cheese is expected to go above last fall's level and non-civilian requirements will remain about the same so that the supplies of cheese for civilians probably will be greater in the third quarter than in the same period last year. Civilian supplies of all these products and butter will show a seasonal decline from the April-June quarter.

Recent Government actions of interest to consumers were the lowering of point values on cheese to 10 points for Group 1, and the establishment of 4 points for Groups II and III after a 2-week point holiday from June 18 to July 2. Group 1 is principally cheddar, Groups II and III, principally the softer types of cheese. An increase in the point value for butter from 12 points to 16 points has just been announced, effective June 23.

Fats and Oils

Fats and oils products for civilian use are expected to be relatively plentiful until October, as they have been during the spring and summer, but supplies will be smaller during the last quarter of the year. Civilian consumption per capita for 1944 as a whole is now forecast at 46 pounds of all food fats and oils: 12 pounds of butter, 15 pounds of lard, 3 pounds of margarine, 10 pounds of shortening and 6 pounds of other fats and oils. This means about the same total food fats and oils, butter, and margarine as last year, more lard and shortening but less of other fats and oils.

Civilian butter supplies in the third quarter probably will be less than in the past quarter (April-June) and less than the third quarter of 1943. Butter production will be substantially smaller and civilians will get about the same proportion of current production in the July-September period as last year. Similarly, supplies of butter for civilians in the October-December quarter may be less than they were during the same period last year when the disappearance of butter into civilian channels was the smallest on record on a per capita basis. WFA has informed the trade that some Government procurement may be necessary during October. From October 1943 until April 1944 no set aside was required.

Lard and other food fats will continue plentiful during the next two months or so. By October, lard production will begin to reflect the estimated 24 percent reduction in the spring pig crop. Lard production in the 1944-45 season is expected to be about 25 percent below the all-time peak of 3,550 million pounds estimated for 1943-44. The smaller lard output will affect the civilian supply of food fats and oils both directly and indirectly -- directly in less lard for consumption as such; indirectly, because less lard will be available for substitution for other fats and oils. At the same time, the total output of fats and oils other than lard in the 1944-45 season probably will also decline, but civilian, military, and export requirements will continue to be large during the winter. Therefore, the over-all fats and oils situation will become tighter.

Fruit

Total supplies of fruit are expected to be considerably larger during the 1944-45 season than during the preceding season. The 1944 crop of major deciduous fruits, now being harvested, is estimated to be nearly one-fifth larger than the 1943 crop. The 1944-45 crop of citrus fruit, the harvest of which will start next fall, is expected to be as large as the record 1943-44 crop or slightly larger.

Prospective production of the following deciduous fruit crops is larger than last year by the indicated percentages: Apricots, 207; cherries, 67; peaches, 64; apples, 37; and pears, 13 percent. In contrast, the grape crop is expected to be 11 percent smaller than in 1943. Indicated production of fresh plums in California and Michigan is about as large this year as last. Total prune production in Washington, Oregon, Idaho is expected to be 29 percent smaller. The prospective supply of dried prunes in California is about 18 percent smaller than last year. The 1944 California crop of walnuts is indicated to be 12 percent larger than 1943 production and the almond crop 32 percent larger.

The 1944-45 per capita supplies of commercially canned fruit available to civilians may be slightly smaller than in 1943-44 because of increased noncivilian requirements in spite of an expected 47 percent increase in the pack. However, the civilian supply of canned fruit juices in 1944 is now expected to be about a fourth larger than last year.

Total current market supplies of fresh deciduous and citrus fruit continue larger than a year earlier. As usual for this time of the year, less citrus fruit is being marketed, but more deciduous fruits are available. Supplies of fresh apricots, cherries and plums reached their peak in early July. A larger volume of peaches is now moving and new-crop apples, pears, and grapes are coming on the market.

Vegetables

Civilian consumption of fresh vegetables, exclusive of town and city garden production, for the calendar year 1944 is now expected to be about 15 pounds higher than in 1943. This will more than offset the expected 4 percent reduction in civilian supplies of commercially canned vegetables for the pack year 1944 beginning this summer. In addition to the commercially produced canned and fresh vegetables, many consumers have victory garden produce and home-canned vegetables.

This year's supply of summer (July, August and September) fresh vegetables is expected to be 13 percent larger than last year's supply for the same period, on the basis of July 1 reports. Vegetables that will be marketed during these summer months in quantities larger than last summer, and also larger than average (1933-42), include lima beans, snap beans, cantaloups (early and mid-summer), cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, honeydew melons, lettuce, onions (early summer), green peas, green peppers, and spinach. Summer supplies of cabbage and watermelons are also indicated to be larger than last year but slightly below average.

The planted acreage of early fall cabbage is about one-fourth larger than last year and the 10-year (1933-42) average. The plantings of early fall tomatoes in California, on the other hand, are estimated to be nearly one-fourth smaller than a year earlier, but still a little above the 10-year average.

Production of vegetables for processing is likely to be a little larger than last year, although it probably will be slightly smaller than the record 1942 crop. The pack of canned vegetables is also expected to be larger. However, because of increased war requirements the supply of all canned vegetables for civilians probably will average 30.3 pounds per capita, slightly less than last year.

A crop of 18.0 million bags (100 pound bags, cleaned basis) of dry edible beans is forecast for 1944, on the basis of the conditions on July 1. This compares with a crop of 19.4 million bags in 1943. Stocks of dry beans, in producing states but excluding those in direct consumption trade channels, totaled 4.9 million bags on June 1, 1944. There are also some War Food Administration stocks besides those included in this total.

Stocks of dry peas, similarly held, totaled 3.0 million bags on June 1, 1944. The production of peas in 1944 is estimated at 8.8 million bags, compared with 10.0 bags in 1943.

A 399 million-bushel potato crop for 1944 was forecast on the basis of July 1 conditions. This would be 14 percent less than last year's record crop but nearly 10 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. With the exception of last year, it is the largest crop since 1934. Harvesting of potatoes in the early States is about completed, with production estimated at 18 percent lower than last year. The crops in the intermediate and late States are now estimated to be about 22 percent and 13 percent smaller, respectively, than last year.

The sweetpotato crop for 1944 was estimated, on July 1, to be 66.4 million bushels, 9 percent less than in 1943.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

For the first time in 3 years the prospective domestic wheat crop appears to be large enough to cover expected food and nonfood needs, without reducing the size of the carry-over. As of July 1, the crop was indicated at 1,128 million bushels, which would be the largest in our history and 93 million bushels above the indication based on June 1 condition. The carry-over of old wheat on July 1, 1944, estimated at about 350 million bushels, is considerably below the 616 million bushels a year earlier, but about 50 percent above the 235 million-bushel average in

1932-41. Total disappearance in 1944-45 may not be as large as the record 1,250 million bushels in 1943-44. Total utilization for food, seed, and industrial alcohol is expected to be about the same as in the year just past, the quantity for feed materially less than the 480 million bushels last year, but exports will be larger.

Rye production indicated as of July 1 was 29.4 million bushels, slightly below the 30.8 million produced in 1943. With stocks at the beginning of the new marketing year estimated at 26.6 million bushels, total domestic supplies would be 56 million bushels. Food requirements are estimated at 11-1/2 million bushels and seed at 6 million, which would leave substantial quantities for alcohol and feed.

On the basis of July 1 condition, the rice crop is indicated at 70.1 million bushels, practically the same as a year earlier. A crop of this size is expected to be large enough to permit domestic civilian consumption slightly above the 1943 rate of 5.8 pounds per capita, as well as to satisfy military and substantial foreign requirements.

Table 3.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil. lb.	6,936	8,092	8,831	8,536	9,423	136	110
Veal	"	1,038	1,029	1,139	1,142	1,371	132	120
Lamb and mutton ..	"	871	925	1,045	1,107	973	112	88
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	9,447	10,723	13,371	13,256	181	99
Total meats ...	"	16,182	19,493	21,738	24,156	25,023	155	104
Poultry products								
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	3,828	4,430	4,965	5,134	154	103
Chickens (dressed weight)	Mil. lb.	2,325	2,642	2,988	3,821	3,500	151	92
Turkeys (dressed weight)	"	350	468	496	466	480	137	103
Dairy products 2/								
Total milk for human consumption 3/	"	103,656	115,196	118,773	117,689	117,735	114	100
Cheese 4/	"	669	956	1,109	995	1,007	151	101
Condensed and evaporated milk .	"	2,225	3,555	3,782	3,337	3,574	161	107
Fluid milk and cream 5/	"	44,146	46,900	49,514	53,929	54,735	124	101

Continued -

Table 3.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of	
							1935-39	1943
Fats and oils								
Butter, farm and factory	Mil. lb.	2,170	2,268	2,130	2,021	1,857	86	92
Lard 6/	"	1,620	2,213	2,385	2,917	3,160	195	108
Compounds and vegetable cooking fats (fat content)	"	1,529	1,409	1,300	1,438	1,469	96	102
Margarine (fat content)	"	303	297	347	500	499	165	100
Other food products and uses 7/	"	584	1,018	1,151	1,268	1,096	188	86
Total fats and oils	"	6,206	7,205	7,313	8,144	8,081	130	99
Fruits								
Fresh								
Citrus	"	6,870	8,517	8,333	8,836	9,866	144	112
Apples (commercial)	"	4,384	4,110	4,070	2,842	4,078	93	143
Other (excluding melons) 8/	"	4,807	5,340	4,907	3,612	4,858	101	134
Processed								
Canned fruits 9/	Mil. lb.	1,666	2,332	2,179	1,560	2,289	137	147
Canned juices 10/	"	318	907	858	1,375	1,545	486	112
Frozen 11/	"	106	208	233	230	253	239	110
Dried 12/	"	1,127	922	1,050	1,380	1,140	101	83
Vegetables								
Fresh 13/	"	30,498	32,183	34,161	31,224	33,866	111	108
Canned 14/	"	4,084	5,824	6,800	6,196	6,745	165	109
Frozen 15/	"	16/ 78	107	171	230	279	358	121
Potatoes	1,000 bu.	358,713	364,602	371,489	460,656	405,000	113	88
Sweetpotatoes	"	67,927	62,144	65,508	72,572	66,393	98	91
Beans, dry edible 17/	Mil. lb.	1,361	1,705	1,761	1,943	1,800	132	93
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 short tons	1,948	2,090	2,141	1,531	1,650	85	108
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	943	974	836	1,128	149	135
Rye	"	44.9	45.4	57.7	30.8	29.4	65	95
Rice	"	49.8	51.3	64.5	70.0	70.1	141	100
Corn	"	2,316	2,676	3,132	3,076	2,980	129	97
Oats	"	1,045	1,181	1,350	1,144	1,183	113	103
Barley	"	239	362	429	322	302	126	94

Continued -

Table 3.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943, and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

1/ Data for 1943 and 1944 are preliminary. Calendar year basis except for: Fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; and potatoes on the basis of a year beginning July 1.
2/ Calculated on fat solids equivalent. Complete data for ice cream consumption as ice cream for 1943 are not available. It is estimated that in 1944, 4,687 million pounds of milk (excluding milk duplicated in butter and condensed milk) will go into the production of ice cream compared with the estimate of 4,235 million pounds in 1943, 5,320 million in 1942, 4,540 in 1941 and an average of 3,083 in 1935-39.
3/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume.
4/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese.
5/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use.
6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products.
7/ Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products, and other minor uses such as fish canning.
8/ Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries, (including noncommercial) cranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums and prunes (including noncommercial), and strawberries (including noncommercial).
9/ Includes apples and applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, olives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears.
10/ Includes grape, grapefruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous, also concentrates.
11/ Principally cherries, strawberries, and other berries.
12/ Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins.
13/ Estimates of all vegetables other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production.
14/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, spinach, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables.
15/ Includes asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, broccoli, brussel sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots (mixed), spinach, squash, and miscellaneous.
16/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.
17/ Cleaned basis.

NEW INDEX OF PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FOODS, 1909-44

A new index of the per capita consumption of foods, together with indexes for major sub-groups, is presented in table 4.

The index shows consumption in 1944 (preliminary) to be 7 percent above the average for the 5 pre-war years, 1935-39. This estimate does not include the production of food in city gardens. If the production of food in city gardens equals that estimated for 1943, consumption this year will be 8 percent above the pre-war average, or the same as the record level established in 1941.

The index shows a gradual upward trend in food consumption since 1909, although significant declines are evident in 1921 and during the depression years of the early 30's. While the total number of pounds of food consumed tends to remain fairly stable (see chart on cover page), important changes in the composition of the diet have taken place. Consumption of grain products and potatoes has declined steadily, whereas consumption of dairy products, fruits, and vegetables has increased. (See Chart A.) A nutritional analysis of the national average diet indicates that there has been considerable improvement in the nutritive content over a period of years.

The index is a simple, aggregative type of index. Quantities of food consumed per capita for each year, measured at the retail level, are weighted by average retail prices for the base period, 1935-39. Since the same price weights are used for all years, the changes in the index result from changes in the quantities of the various foods consumed.

Foods have been grouped according to the categories used by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics in its dietary studies, except that all vegetables comprise one group, all fruits another, and an additional group composed of coffee, tea, cocoa, and spices has been included. The estimates of per capita consumption in terms of retail weight used in the index are those compiled in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for use by the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics in making an analysis of the nutritive content of the diet. The estimates represent the quantity available for purchase by the consumer. They are derived from the official estimates of consumption by making allowances for normal farm-to-retail market losses. These losses cover shrinkage and spoilage in transit and in storage, cutting losses on meats, and spoilage in retail stores. For some products, these losses have been determined by special studies, but for others the factors used are the best estimates available based on relative perishability of the product and the time involved in the distribution process. Losses allowed constitute approximately 15 percent of the total weight at the farm level, and are distributed as follows: 2.5 percent for fresh milk and cream, 3 percent for eggs, 15-35 percent for losses in the manufacture of grain products, about 10 percent for potatoes and sweet potatoes, and an average of about 10 percent for meat, 7.5 percent for fresh fruits, and about 15 percent for fresh vegetables.

The new index supplants an earlier index, last published in October 1943, which measured the average consumption of foods at the farm or processor level. A number of revised series, and some new series not in the old index were used in constructing the new index.

Attention is called to the fact that, beginning with 1941, the estimates of consumption refer to civilian population only, while data for earlier years refer to the total population.

Table 4.- Per capita consumption of foods, by major food groups, 1/ 1909-44

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year	Total	Dairy products		Meats, poultry, fish	Eggs	Potatoes and sweet-potatoes	Beans, peas, nuts	Fats and oils		Flour and grain products	Sugar and sirups
		Including butter	Excluding butter					Including butter	Excluding butter		
1909	98	84	79	119	98	144	64	101	98	140	81
1910	97	86	80	115	103	145	61	100	94	141	84
1911	98	86	80	118	110	120	60	103	99	137	86
1912	98	84	80	113	104	133	60	98	97	139	83
1913	96	85	82	110	102	135	63	99	99	136	88
1914	97	87	83	108	99	120	61	101	100	136	86
1915	96	87	83	104	105	134	63	102	101	132	84
1916	96	88	84	107	100	111	71	103	103	135	86
1917	96	87	85	104	94	118	105	96	96	136	88
1918	95	85	86	109	95	131	97	94	101	119	87
1919	98	87	86	107	102	120	92	100	105	128	100
1920	97	88	88	105	100	119	74	93	95	121	97
1921	94	91	89	103	100	120	74	94	93	116	94
1922	99	94	92	106	106	121	70	98	96	119	110
1923	101	97	94	111	110	128	80	106	106	116	98
1924	102	100	98	111	109	113	93	107	106	115	108
1925	101	102	100	108	107	109	89	105	103	114	110
1926	102	102	100	107	114	98	89	104	100	116	112
1927	101	101	100	105	115	109	99	106	105	115	111
1928	102	101	100	101	114	115	97	107	108	117	113
1929	102	103	102	101	112	115	88	107	108	114	105
1930	100	100	100	100	110	100	84	104	105	112	115
1931	100	99	97	99	111	104	99	106	105	110	107
1932	98	97	95	100	104	110	87	106	105	105	101
1933	97	97	94	104	99	108	78	105	104	100	102
1934	99	96	93	112	96	108	87	106	104	100	101
1935	96	97	95	94	93	112	98	95	91	98	100
1936	99	99	99	102	96	100	98	100	101	102	102
1937	100	101	101	100	103	96	99	99	100	100	99
1938	100	100	101	99	103	100	98	100	101	100	98
1939	104	104	104	104	104	92	107	106	107	101	101
1940	105	104	105	108	106	96	106	109	114	100	97
1941	108	106	109	110	104	94	109	106	112	101	107
1942	107	112	117	109	104	95	121	100	103	104	100
1943	106	107	115	111	115	100	123	100	117	108	89
1944	107	107	116	111	115	99	120	102	119	107	91

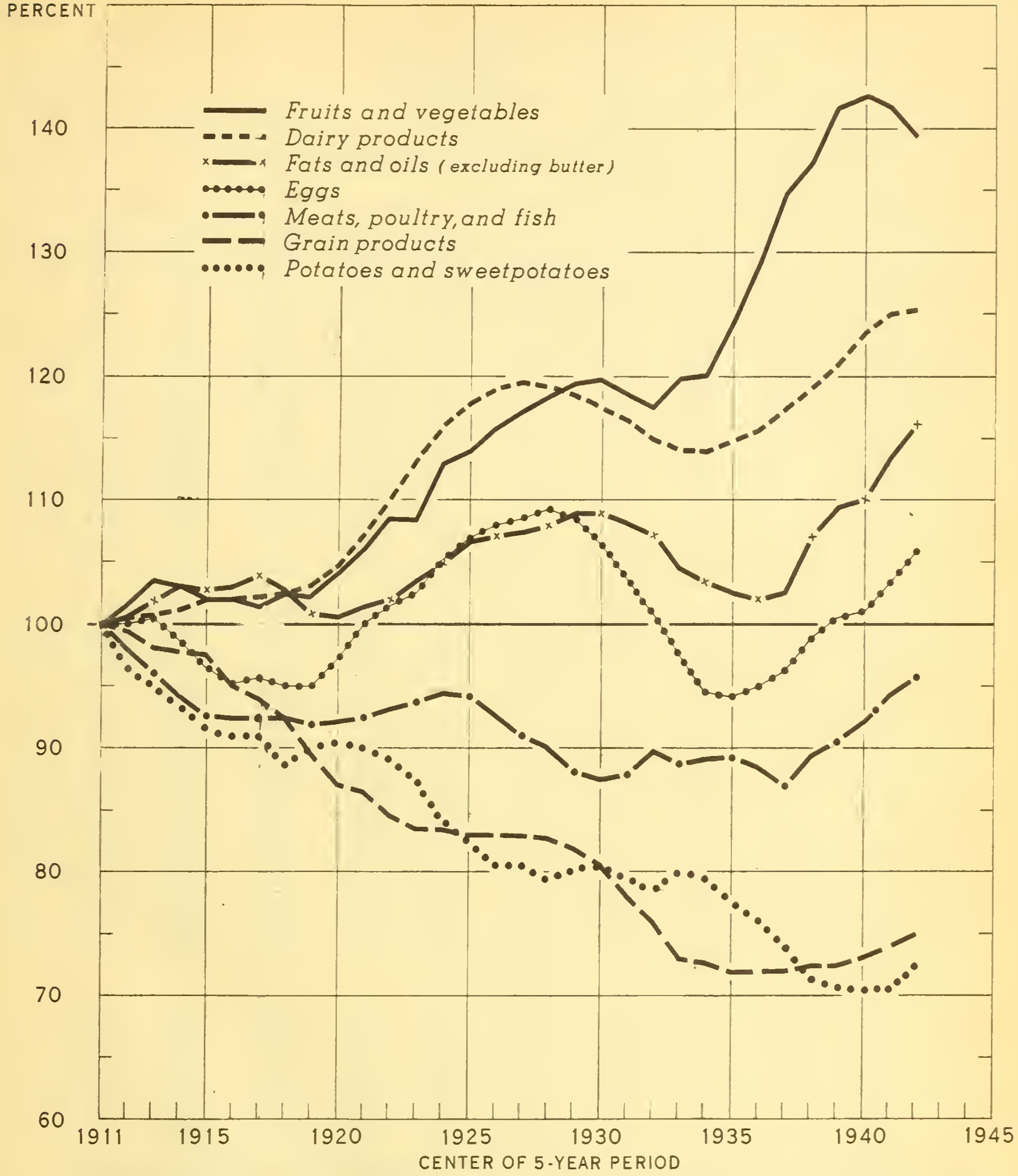
Table 4.- Per capita consumption of foods, by major food groups 1/, 1909-44 - Continued

Year	Fruits					Vegetables			Coffee, tea, cocoa, spices	Total consumption of foods in pounds retail weight (1935-39 = 100)
	Fresh	Canned fruits	Canned juices	Dried	Total	Fresh	Canned	Total		
1909	85	19		70	71	84	48	76	73	102
1910	85	23		58	71	81	46	72	69	102
1911	94	26		72	79	76	49	70	67	100
1912	97	28		77	81	82	59	77	79	102
1913	83	27		60	70	78	63	74	68	100
1914	100	39		70	85	78	61	75	71	100
1915	97	34		86	83	81	57	75	79	101
1916	83	52		88	75	78	53	72	85	97
1917	82	51		107	75	77	60	73	94	98
1918	76	49		76	68	79	72	77	86	97
1919	80	63		118	76	80	69	77	84	98
1920	92	63		114	84	88	61	82	84	99
1921	77	58		95	72	78	56	73	84	95
1922	95	56		113	86	83	57	77	88	101
1923	93	60		95	84	80	71	78	94	101
1924	96	58		111	87	85	75	83	89	102
1925	88	76		109	83	83	82	82	82	101
1926	105	81		106	97	82	85	82	91	102
1927	86	80		107	82	89	75	86	88	101
1928	97	87		104	92	86	77	84	85	103
1929	96	82		92	89	92	86	91	89	103
1930	89	80	7	93	84	89	93	90	87	100
1931	106	74	10	83	96	92	86	90	91	102
1932	85	68	10	95	80	96	72	90	90	99
1933	83	78	10	92	80	91	70	86	92	97
1934	87	89	12	95	84	92	76	88	87	97
1935	99	88	48	102	95	98	90	96	97	99
1936	91	106	77	95	93	94	98	95	100	99
1937	103	106	115	97	104	100	102	101	95	100
1938	97	91	113	95	96	105	106	105	102	100
1939	111	110	147	111	112	104	104	104	106	102
1940	103	116	171	111	108	101	110	103	108	102
1941	103	127	204	79	110	104	123	109	112	104
1942	91	92	166	76	93	109	133	115	91	104
1943	84	75	149	97	86	103	123	108	87	104
1944	97	66	185	79	95	110	103	108	103	106

1/ Per capita consumption of food, retail weight equivalent, weighted by average retail prices for the base period, 1935-39. Consumption for total population 1909-40, civilian only, beginning 1941. Estimates of military consumption for the period of World War I are not available.

TRENDS IN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FOODS, BY GROUPS

5-YEAR MOVING AVERAGES (1909-13=100)



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This chart summarizes the changes in the per capita consumption of food by major food groups from 1909-44. In order to show the changes more clearly, the base for each sub-group has been shifted to 1909-13.

Table 5.- Retail food prices and total cost of living, United States, by months, 1942-44

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruits and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Total cost of living
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	127	122	124	116
Jan.	116	131	122	111	103	119	109	122	118	116	116	112
Feb.	118	119	122	114	104	118	115	125	128	117	117	113
Mar.	120	112	122	117	105	124	121	128	128	120	119	114
Apr.	122	111	122	120	105	126	122	131	128	123	120	115
May	124	115	123	122	105	130	123	131	127	125	122	116
June	127	120	122	120	105	137	122	133	127	123	123	116
July	128	130	123	120	105	139	122	134	127	123	125	117
Aug.	130	146	126	120	105	135	123	139	127	124	126	118
Sept.	131	155	128	121	105	130	124	143	127	124	127	118
Oct.	131	165	131	121	106	139	125	150	127	124	130	119
Nov.	132	166	132	124	106	145	127	150	127	125	131	120
Dec.	133	167	132	125	106	151	128	150	128	124	133	120
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec.	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124
1944												
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Mar.	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	124
May 1/	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Preliminary.

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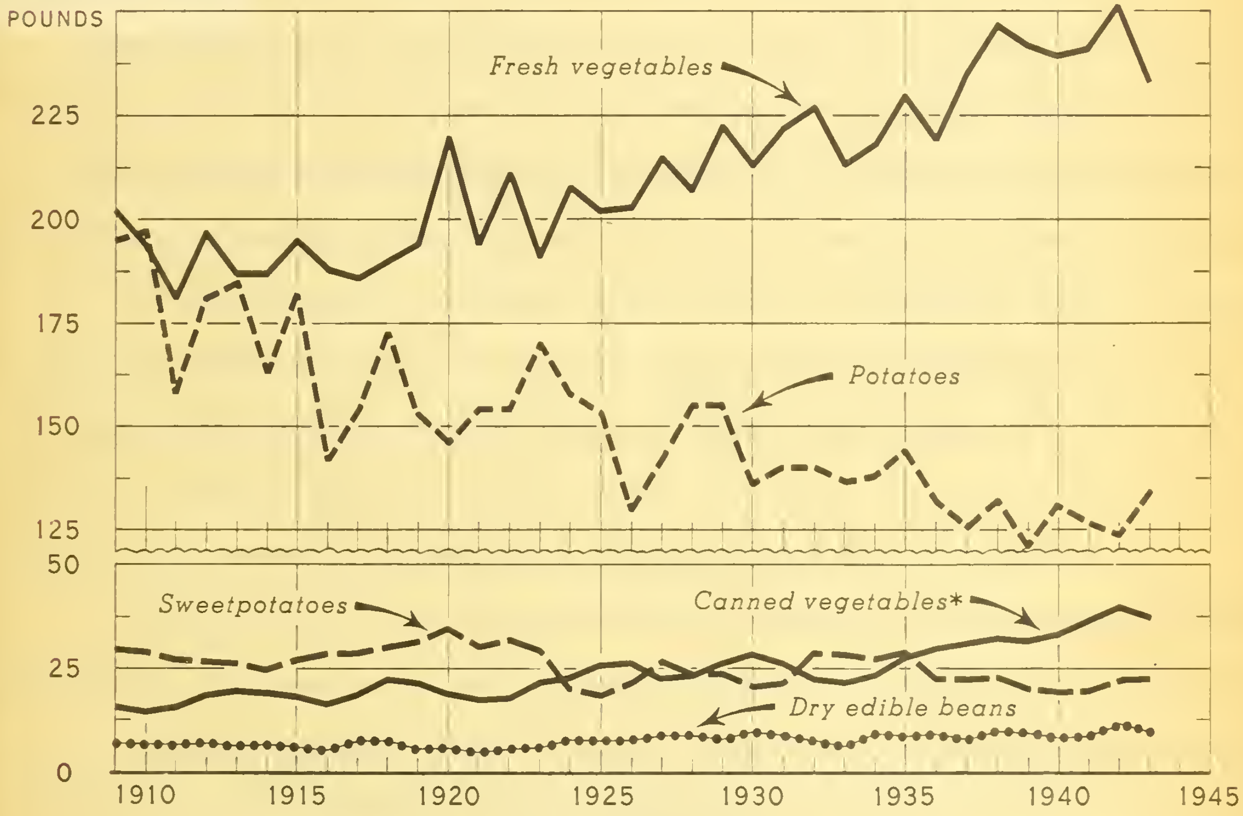
TRENDS IN CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF VEGETABLES, UNITED STATES, 1909-43



*NET CANNED WEIGHT

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The per capita consumption of fresh vegetables, including melons, has increased about one-sixth since 1909 while the consumption of commercially canned vegetables more than doubled. On the other hand, per capita consumption of potatoes decreased about one third during the period 1909-43 and sweetpotato consumption declined about one-fourth.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

Summary

The over-all civilian food situation will be comparatively good for the rest of 1944. Civilian supplies of most foods have been quite liberal all spring and summer, but butter, evaporated milk, pork, and citrus fruits are now becoming less plentiful. Pork and citrus fruits will increase seasonally later in the year. Somewhat less butter and other manufactured dairy products, canned fruit, canned vegetables, lamb, and less of the better grades of beef will be available during the next few months than during the spring and summer, but all of these are being rationed to assure equitable distribution. However, available supplies of these foods, except the better grades of beef, are not expected to be much below those of the last few months of 1943. Fresh fruits and perhaps fresh vegetables will be more plentiful than last year.

The reduction in the butter supply, as the result of greater than usual seasonal declines in butter production and large military takings, will bring civilian per capita supplies for the fourth quarter to a level lower than at any time in over half a century. Other fats and oils are expected to continue relatively plentiful for several months. Fluid milk consumption during the remaining months of 1944 should be about as large as during the same months last year, but prospects are for somewhat smaller supplies of fluid cream. Military and lend-lease requirements will take such a large part of the evaporated milk production that the civilian supply will be much smaller. On the other hand, civilians may get a little more condensed milk.

Civilian consumers are already finding relatively large supplies of lower grades of beef, veal, and mutton. But current supplies of lamb, and of Choice and Good beef are relatively small. These are the results of seasonally small marketing of grain-fed cattle, seasonal increases in marketings of lower grade grass-fed animals, some decrease in the lamb crop, and heavy noncivilian takings. Pork supplies are down seasonally but will increase somewhat during the last quarter of the year.

Egg supplies, particularly of grades B and C, continue plentiful. Marketings of chickens will be seasonally large for the next few months.

Despite large packs of processed fruits and vegetables, these will not become plentiful for civilians because prospective military and lend-lease requirements are even larger than last year. Fortunately, this year's deciduous fruit crop is expected to be at least 20 percent larger than last year's short crop and fresh vegetable supplies continue large. Likewise, the food grain situation continues favorable with the largest wheat crop in our history as well as good crops of rye and rice.

-- August 26, 1944

Meats

Abundant supplies of the lower grades of beef and veal are currently available for civilian consumption as the result of record slaughter of calves and heavy marketing of grass cattle and of no set-aside requirements on veal and canner and cutter beef. Marketings of grain-fed cattle from the Corn Belt during August-October may not exceed 50 percent of the marketings in the same period a year earlier. The number of cattle on feed for market in the 11 Corn Belt States on August 2 was 41 percent less than the number a year earlier. This is the smallest number of cattle on feed on that date since 1937, and is estimated to be about 700,000 less than on August 1, 1943. Most of this decrease this year from last was almost entirely in the number of cattle that had been on feed over 7 months, or the strictly long-fed cattle. With fewer cattle on grain feed on August 1 than a year earlier, and a larger proportion of these cattle having been on feed for a shorter period of time, prospective marketings of high grade grain-fed cattle during the last part of this year will be much smaller than usual.

WFA increased the set-aside percentages on beef, effective July 30, so that 45 percent of the federally inspected production of Choice and Good beef and 45 percent each of Commercial and Utility beef must be reserved for purchase by war agencies. The previous set-aside percentages on these grades were 35 percent. No set-aside is now required on canner and cutter beef or on veal. The set-aside percentage was further increased to 50 percent on August 20.

In line with these changes in the civilian supplies of beef, point values for the Utility grade were set at zero for the period August 13 through September 2. The more expensive cuts of Choice, Good, and Commercial beef are still being rationed.

Civilian pork supplies are somewhat reduced from the abundance available so far this year as the result of seasonally smaller slaughter and large non-civilian takings. Pork output in October-December this year, while seasonally larger than in July-September, may be about 20 percent smaller than in the same period last year, and at least 15 percent smaller than in the first quarter of 1944 when slaughter reached an all-time record for the period. Point values were placed on some pork cuts, beginning August 13. A new order, WFO 75.3, effective August 27, institutes a set-aside for government purchase of part of the federally inspected pork production. The set-aside percentages vary with the individual cuts and include 30 percent of the loin, 40 percent of the ham, 50 percent of the bacon, 70 percent of the shoulder production meeting government specifications.

Slaughter of sheep and lambs in September-December this year is expected to be smaller than in the same period last year. The lamb crop this year is reported to be somewhat smaller than last year. Reductions in the crop this year were quite general. Lamb and mutton production probably will increase seasonally through October.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilian egg consumption will remain large for the rest of 1944 because accumulated stocks will supplement egg production in the fourth quarter as it declines seasonally from present levels. Egg production on farms in the first seven months of 1944 reached a new record, 6 percent above 1943, the previous record.

Highest cold-storage holdings of shell eggs on August 1 since 1930 probably will make available for civilians plentiful supplies of grade B and C eggs in particular, for the next 4 or 5 months. While holdings include Government-owned stocks, it appears that more storage eggs for civilian consumption will be available than at any time in recent years. WFA stocks of shell eggs on August 4 amounted to 1.4 million cases. Holdings of frozen-egg, used largely by bakers and other processors, reached the highest level ever reported.

Marketings of chickens for civilian consumption are seasonally large. Near the end of the year, however, civilian supplies probably will be smaller than in late 1943. Turkey supplies for civilians may be slightly smaller than last year, although turkey production is estimated at 35.7 million birds or somewhat above last year. Increased military requirements will be responsible for the decline in available civilian supplies. WFO 106, effective July 17, requires all turkeys produced and marketed in designated areas to be set aside for sale to the armed forces until military needs are filled.

Dairy Products

Civilian supplies of most dairy products are smaller this fall than during the late spring and summer as the result of seasonal declines in milk production and relatively large noncivilian requirements.

Milk production on farms during the remaining months of 1944 is expected to equal the September-December 1943 rate. Because of the size of noncivilian requirements, total civilian consumption of milk may be slightly less than last year. Fluid milk consumption will be held down by seasonally declining production and the limitations of WFO 79. This order limits dealers' sales of fluid milk, fluid cream and milk byproducts and is now effective in 140 milk areas, whereas last year very few market areas were under its limitations during the fourth quarter. The rate of consumption of fluid milk should be about as high as in the last quarter of 1944, although smaller supplies of fluid cream are in prospect.

So far this year creamery butter output has been below every month of last year, and this trend is expected to continue. Civilian per capita consumption of butter in the last quarter probably will be less than at any time in over a half century. Per capita consumption of condensed milk will probably be higher than last year.

Recent Government actions which affect consumers are as follows: The set-aside percentage for September on butter is 20 percent and the same as last year but below the August rate of 30 percent. With WFO 92 limiting the production of cheeses other than American to the quantity produced in 1942, supplies of such cheeses probably will be less than last year. OPA recently raised the point values for the period of August 13-September 2 on Groups II and III cheeses (other than cheddar). Point values on farm butter are raised from 8 to 12 red points per pound. The limitation on the use of milk solids in ice cream for civilian consumption has been changed back to 65 percent of that used in the same months of the base period, under WFO 8. In May, June and July the order was relaxed in order to utilize fully flush milk production. WFO 54 has just been amended to lift set-aside restrictions on roller nonfat-dry milk solids. This will permit the use of more milk solids by bakers in bread.

Fats and Oils

Civilian disappearance of butter this quarter (July-September) may be about 3.0 pounds per capita, the same as in the corresponding quarter of 1943. This is a tenth of a pound below estimated disappearance last quarter, and two-tenths below the January-March rate, which was the highest since 1942. With a seasonal decline in butter production until early winter and large noncivilian takings, the rate of civilian butter disappearance in the October-December quarter may be less than the 2.9 pounds per capita consumed in the fourth quarter of 1943.

Although the output of butter so far this year has been less than in corresponding months a year earlier, civilian supplies in the first half of 1944 did not decrease as much as production. A smaller percentage of the output than in 1943 was set aside for sale to designated Government agencies.

Current civilian consumption of margarine is believed to be above the seasonally low 0.7 pounds per capita rate of last quarter (April-June) and nearer to the 1 pound rate of the first quarter of this year. With butter for civilians expected to be in relatively short supply in the last quarter of 1944, margarine consumption will show a further rise in that quarter.

Hog slaughter and lard production in federally inspected plants in July and early August were materially reduced from the level that had been maintained since October last year. This reduction marks the end of the record run of hogs from the 1943 pig crop and a return of lard output to more nearly normal levels. Output of lard and rendered pork fat in the 12 months beginning October 1944 is expected to be about 30 percent under the total of 3,550 million pounds indicated for the present season, 1943-44.

Stocks of lard and rendered pork fat on July 1, as reported by the Bureau of the Census, totaled 685 million pounds, the largest holdings on record. Commercial inventories, estimated at 150 million pounds, were only moderately large in comparison with earlier years, but Government holdings were very large, and soap manufacturers held substantial inventories of lard and rendered pork fat.

Fruit

For the 1944-45 season as a whole, civilian per capita supplies of fresh deciduous fruits are expected to be from 1/5 to 1/4 larger than comparable supplies last season. Although the canned pack of fruit is expected to be larger this year than last, noncivilian requirements will more than absorb the expected increase; therefore, supplies available to civilians may be smaller. The quantity that civilians will receive is largely contingent upon the quantity actually taken for noncivilian purposes.

During the coming weeks, a relatively large volume of fresh peaches, pears, plums, prunes, and grapes is expected to move to market. In contrast, the market movement of citrus fruits is declining seasonally, although moderate quantities of Valencia oranges and lemons from California will be marketed. Harvesting of the large 1944 crops of apricots and cherries is now practically completed.

Total supplies of fruit for 1944-45 season probably will be from 10 to 15 percent larger than the supplies for the 1943-44 season. The aggregate tonnage of the eight major deciduous fruits -- apples, pears, peaches, apricots, cherries, plums, prunes, and grapes -- is expected to be about one-fifth larger in 1944 than in 1943. Indications point to a citrus crop in 1944-45 as large as the record crop in 1943-44 or larger.

The prospective production of apples and grapes improved during the past month because of favorable growing conditions. The commercial crop of apples, as of August 1, is expected to total 125,643,000 bushels, which is 41 percent more than last year but only slightly more than average. A grape crop of 2,722,150 tons is in prospect, 8 percent less than last year but 15 percent more than average. Production of peaches is expected to total 69 percent more this year than last, but pear production may be only 16 percent larger. Prospective production of dried prunes in California, and of prunes for all purposes in the Pacific Northwest is considerably smaller this year than last. Unfavorable growing conditions for cranberries point to a crop 35 percent smaller this year than last. Production of walnuts and almonds may be larger this year than last, whereas the crop of filberts and pecans may be about the same.

Vegetables

Commercial supplies of summer vegetables are expected to be about one-fifth larger than last year, on a tonnage basis, according to reports of August 1. Summer supplies of onions, lettuce, watermelons, cantaloups, cucumbers, honeydew melons, and peas are expected to be larger than last year. Supplies of tomatoes, sweet corn, and carrots may be smaller. Indications now point to a fall crop of domestic cabbage considerably larger than last year. The supplies of fall celery are expected to be about the same as a year earlier, but prospects for the fall tomato and carrot crop are less favorable than last year.

The 1944 production of truck crops for processing may be somewhat larger than in 1943. The aggregate tonnage of the tomatoes, peas, sweet corn, and snap beans (the four most important canned vegetables) was forecast on August 1 to be about 13 percent larger Most of the increase will be due to a 21 percent increase in tomato production. The production of sweet corn for processing may be a little larger than last year, while production of green peas and snap beans is indicated to be a little below that of 1943. Despite these prospects of increased total pack, civilian per capita supplies of canned vegetables in 1944-45 are expected to be smaller than last year as the result of increased requirements for military and other noncivilian use.

The Irish potato crop now being harvested in the intermediate States was forecast on August 1 to be 22.4 million bushels, 33 percent less than last year's crop and 28 percent less than the 10-year (1933-42) average. Most of the potato supplies during the fall and winter months will come from the 30 late States where the estimated production of 308.7 million bushels is 15 percent less than last year but 7 percent larger than the 10-year (1933-42) average. The total 1944 crop estimated at 385 million bushels would provide, on the basis of present expected noncivilian requirements, a per capita supply for fresh consumption by civilians from 10 to 15 percent less than last year, and 5 to 10 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average.

The 65.2 million bushel sweetpotato crop, on the basis of August 1 estimates, would be 10 percent less than in 1943 and 3 percent below the 10-year (1933-42) average. With a crop of this size, per capita civilian supplies would be some 15 percent less than last year's per capita consumption and 20 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) per capita consumption.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

The food grain situation has changed little during the past month. Ample quantities are available for food use. The wheat crop was indicated at a record high of 1,132 million bushels on August 1 or slightly higher than on July 1. The rye crop was forecast at 27.6 million bushels, a 6 percent decrease from the previous estimate of 29.4 million. The indicated rice crop at 68.9 million bushels was less than 2 percent below a month earlier.

The total wheat disappearance in 1944-45 may be about equal to the 1,132 million-bushel crop and only about half of this will be for civilian and military food. Out of the slightly smaller rye crop indicated, only about 11.5 million bushels are required for food uses.

A 68.9 million-bushel rice crop, while slightly below the record high of 70 million bushels in 1943, is sharply above the 50 million bushel average in 1933-42. A crop of this size is expected to be large enough to permit civilian consumption above the estimated 5.8 pound per capita rate in 1943-44 as well as to satisfy substantial military and foreign requirements.

Estimated Consumption of Vegetables, 1909-43

Changes in the consumption of the various groups of vegetables since 1909 indicate certain changes in the pattern of food consumption. The per capita consumption of fresh vegetables, including melons, increased about one-fourth while the consumption of commercially canned vegetables more than doubled. 1/ About a third more dry edible beans were eaten, on the average, in 1943 than in 1909. On the other hand, per capita consumption of potatoes decreased about a third from 1909 to 1943 and sweetpotato consumption declined about one fourth. Although frozen and dehydrated vegetables still are not significant on an average basis, totaling only 1.2 pounds per capita in 1942, they have become important items in the consumption of some groups of people. Consumption in these processed forms may become quite important after the war.

The increase in the per capita consumption of fresh vegetables and melons since 1918 has been due to greater consumption of vegetables such as lettuce, carrots, celery, and cauliflower rather than tomatoes and melons. Adequate data are not available for individual items before 1918. The consumption of leafy green and yellow vegetables including asparagus, lima beans, snapbeans, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce and escarole, green peas, green peppers, and spinach averaged about 70 pounds per capita in 1918 and increased to about 88 pounds in 1943. The quantity of other fresh vegetables such as artichokes, beets, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, onions, and shallots, consumed throughout the 1918-43 period was about the same as leafy green and yellow -- about 69 pounds in 1918, about 82 pounds in 1943. On the other hand, average tomato consumption has not varied more than 10 to 15 percent from year to year, gradually increasing from about 25 pounds per capita in 1918 to about 30 pounds in 1943. Melon consumption per capita also has changed very little when year to year fluctuations are disregarded, averaging about 34 pounds during the 26 year period.

The consumption of canned vegetables on a per capita basis more than doubled from 1909 to 1943, increasing from 15 to 37 pounds. When canned weight is converted roughly to fresh weight, about 26 pounds of vegetables were consumed in processed form in 1909 compared with 63 pounds in

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1/ The bases for the estimates of fresh vegetable consumption are not as good as those for potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans, and canned vegetables. The data are discussed here and shown in the attached table in order to record what is being used in nutrition and other studies. Some revisions may be needed. All data have been extracted from the forthcoming bulletin Production and Consumption of Vegetables, By Richard S. Berberich, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1943. During the period 1909-43, commercially processed vegetables became much more important. On the average in 1909, 7.8 pounds of vegetables were consumed as fresh (i.e. not commercially processed) for every pound of commercially canned vegetables eaten (on fresh-weight basis). By 1943, even with very heavy noncivilian takings from the total vegetable pack that year the ratio had dropped to 3.7 pounds of fresh to 1 pound of commercially canned vegetables, converted to fresh basis. Although much more canned corn and peas are eaten now than before World War I, most of the increase has come in canned vegetables other than these or whole tomatoes, as is shown by the per capita consumption of 5.3 pounds of such vegetables (processed weight) in 1909 and 19.9 pounds in 1943. Tomato products account for much of this increase.

Consumption of vegetables processed by other methods has also increased materially. Per capita consumption of frozen vegetables amounted to only 0.4 pound in 1937, the first year for which data are available, reached 1.1 pounds in 1942, and declined to .76 pounds in 1943. So frozen vegetables are still an insignificant part of the food picture on an over-all basis; however, they are very important items for some people in higher income groups. Only small quantities of dehydrated vegetables have been available for civilian consumption. Total production was 5.2 million pounds in 1939 and about 120 million pounds in 1943. However, most of the production in 1943 went to fill noncivilian requirements.

Table 1.- Estimated civilian consumption of fresh vegetables, 1909-43 1/

Year	Tomatoes		Leafy, green, yellow vegetables 2/		Other fresh vegetables 3/		Melons		All fresh vegetables including melons, excluding potatoes and dry beans		Potatoes 4/		Sweet potatoes 5/		Dry edible beans	
	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. bu.	Lb.	Mil. bu.	Lb.	1,000 bags	Lb.
1909									18,267	202	294.1	195	48.8	29.6	6,111	6.8
1910									17,883	194	302.9	197	48.8	29.0	6,058	6.6
1911									17,026	181	246.9	158	46.4	27.2	5,922	6.3
1912									18,759	197	287.7	181	46.0	26.6	6,487	6.8
1913									18,157	187	300.0	185	46.2	26.1	5,983	6.2
1914									18,520	187	268.8	163	44.5	24.6	6,355	6.4
1915									19,570	195	305.7	182	49.4	27.0	5,885	5.9
1916									19,195	188	240.6	142	52.9	28.5	5,214	5.1
1917	N.A.		N.A.		N.A.		N.A.		19,280	186	264.7	154	54.0	28.7	7,696	7.4
1918	2,577	24.6	7,282	69.7	7,234	69.2	2,729	26.1	19,822	190	301.1	173	57.1	30.1	7,743	7.4
1919	2,733	26.0	7,175	68.3	7,292	69.4	3,223	30.7	20,423	194	267.3	153	60.1	31.4	5,721	5.4
1920	2,913	27.4	8,824	82.9	8,026	75.4	3,677	34.5	23,440	220	259.6	146	66.6	34.4	6,087	5.7
1921	2,713	25.0	7,245	66.7	7,272	67.0	3,819	35.2	21,049	194	278.7	154	59.9	30.3	5,209	4.8
1922	3,001	27.3	8,246	74.9	7,823	71.1	4,201	38.1	23,271	211	283.0	154	63.9	31.9	5,684	5.2
1923	2,891	25.8	7,655	68.4	7,854	70.1	3,028	27.1	21,428	191	317.0	170	59.1	29.0	6,617	5.9
1924	2,999	26.3	8,632	75.6	8,411	73.7	3,656	32.1	23,698	208	299.8	158	41.5	20.0	8,919	7.8
1925	3,002	25.9	8,228	71.0	8,411	72.6	3,774	32.6	23,415	202	295.0	153	38.9	18.4	8,438	7.3
1926	2,636	22.5	8,658	73.7	8,533	72.6	4,055	34.6	23,882	203	254.4	130	46.5	21.8	8,895	7.6
1927	3,113	26.2	9,687	81.4	9,080	76.2	3,771	31.6	25,651	215	282.6	142	57.5	26.6	10,413	8.7
1928	2,884	23.9	9,015	74.8	9,042	75.0	4,004	33.2	24,945	207	311.3	155	51.9	23.7	10,401	8.6
1929	3,181	26.1	9,991	82.0	9,466	77.8	4,468	36.7	27,106	223	314.8	155	52.6	23.8	9,554	7.8
1930	2,956	23.9	9,518	76.9	9,535	77.0	4,361	35.2	26,370	213	279.2	136	46.6	20.7	11,744	9.5
1931	3,066	24.6	10,539	84.5	9,284	74.4	4,765	38.2	27,654	222	290.2	140	49.2	21.7	10,955	8.8
1932	3,452	27.5	10,541	83.9	10,187	81.1	4,317	34.4	28,497	227	292.4	140	65.9	28.9	9,275	7.4
1933	3,106	24.6	9,799	77.6	9,867	78.2	4,072	32.2	26,844	213	288.7	137	64.7	28.2	8,928	7.1
1934	3,102	24.4	10,734	84.4	9,666	76.0	4,159	32.7	27,661	218	291.9	138	63.5	27.4	11,482	9.0
1935	3,563	27.8	11,084	86.6	10,521	82.2	4,338	33.8	29,506	230	307.7	144	66.5	28.6	10,732	8.4

Continued -

Table 1.- Estimated civilian consumption of fresh vegetables, 1909-43 1/ - Continued

Year	Tomatoes		Leafy, green, yellow vegetables 2/		Other fresh vegetables 3/		Melons		All fresh vegetables including melons excluding potatoes and dry beans		Potatoes 4/		Sweet potatoes 5/		Dry edible beans	
	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita	Total	Per capita
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	bu.	Lb.	Mil. bu.	Lb.	1,000 bags	Lb.
1936	3,350	26.0	10,359	80.4	10,488	81.4	4,078	31.6	28,275	219	283.8	132	53.4	22.8	11,540	9.0
1937	3,716	28.7	11,061	85.3	11,068	85.4	4,561	35.2	30,406	235	271.5	126	53.0	22.5	10,085	7.8
1938	3,814	29.2	12,448	95.3	11,411	87.3	4,633	35.5	32,306	247	287.4	132	54.3	22.9	12,503	9.6
1939	3,886	29.5	11,983	91.0	11,429	86.8	4,608	34.9	31,906	242	266.0	121	50.2	21.0	12,191	9.2
1940	3,753	28.3	11,842	89.1	11,217	84.4	4,980	37.5	31,792	239	289.5	131	46.7	19.3	11,022	8.3
1941	3,967	29.9	11,558	87.1	11,956	90.2	4,432	33.4	31,913	241	280.9	127	47.5	19.8	11,603	8.7
1942	3,990	30.2	12,509	94.5	12,402	93.8	4,263	32.2	33,164	251	273.5	124	53.1	22.1	15,019	11.3
1943	3,825	29.5	11,423	88.1	10,938	84.4	3,997	30.8	30,184	233	280.3	130	52.8	22.3	11,710	9.0

1/ Includes production of commercial truck, farm, and market gardens, but not town and city gardens, calendar year basis. 1943 data are preliminary. Consumption is given in terms of production weight -- that is, quantities available for consumption at the farm level. Normal marketing losses between the time of harvest and sale in the retail store -- including shrinkage and spoilage in transit and storage, and spoilage in retail stores -- are estimated roughly as follows: Tomatoes, 25 percent; leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, 14 percent; melons, 13 percent, other truck crops, 14 percent; potatoes, 8 percent; sweetpotatoes, 20 percent

2/ Includes asparagus lima beans, snapbeans, cabbage, carrots, kale, lettuce and escarole, green peas, green peppers, and spinach.

3/ Includes artichokes, beets, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, onions, shallots, and other miscellaneous vegetables.

4/ 60 pounds to a bushel.

5/ 55 pounds to a bushel

Table 2.- Estimated total and per capita civilian consumption of canned vegetables 1909-43 1/

Year	Tomatoes			Corn			Peas			Other 2/			Total		
	Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.
1909	534.4	5.8	6.1	173.6	1.9	2.1	150.8	1.6	1.8	469.2	5.2	5.3	1,328	14.5	15.3
1910	449.3	4.8	5.4	301.9	3.2	2.5	130.4	1.4	1.5	476.4	5.2	5.1	1,358	14.6	14.5
1911	474.3	5.0	4.9	429.0	4.5	3.8	136.0	1.4	1.4	558.7	6.0	5.3	1,598	16.9	15.6
1912	682.2	7.1	5.9	393.3	4.1	4.3	219.2	2.3	1.9	710.3	7.3	6.6	2,005	20.8	18.7
1913	691.1	7.0	7.1	218.5	2.2	3.3	263.1	2.7	2.5	647.3	6.6	6.9	1,820	18.5	19.8
1914	740.5	7.4	7.2	293.7	2.9	2.5	265.4	2.7	2.7	718.4	7.2	6.9	2,018	20.2	19.3
1915	412.0	4.1	6.0	303.7	3.0	3.0	278.2	2.7	2.7	571.1	5.7	6.3	1,565	15.5	18.0
1916	639.3	6.2	5.0	273.9	2.7	2.9	200.6	2.0	2.3	659.2	6.4	6.1	1,773	17.3	16.3
1917 3/	733.4	7.1	6.6	324.1	3.1	2.9	294.9	2.8	2.4	828.6	8.0	7.0	2,181	21.0	18.9
1918 3/	772.7	7.4	7.2	351.7	3.4	3.2	331.9	3.2	3.0	1,056.7	10.0	8.9	2,513	24.0	22.3
1919 3/	525.9	5.0	6.4	406.5	3.8	3.6	260.6	2.5	2.8	741.0	7.0	8.6	1,934	18.3	21.4
1920	553.0	5.1	5.0	451.2	4.2	4.0	369.5	3.4	3.0	691.3	6.5	6.7	2,065	19.2	18.7
1921	380.1	3.5	4.4	349.6	3.2	3.8	245.3	2.2	2.8	642.0	5.9	6.2	1,617	14.8	17.2
1922	645.9	5.8	4.5	343.3	3.1	3.2	389.0	3.5	2.9	898.8	8.1	6.8	2,277	20.5	17.4
1923	668.5	5.9	5.9	419.0	3.7	3.4	416.0	3.7	3.6	1,134.5	10.0	8.9	2,638	23.3	21.8
1924	726.4	6.3	6.1	353.7	3.1	3.4	575.7	5.0	4.3	931.2	8.1	9.1	2,587	22.5	22.9
1925	924.0	7.9	7.0	556.4	4.8	3.8	480.5	4.1	4.6	1,402.1	12.0	9.9	3,363	28.8	25.3
1926	615.8	5.2	6.8	474.6	4.0	4.4	527.6	4.5	4.3	1,084.0	9.2	10.6	2,702	22.9	26.1
1927	677.7	5.7	5.4	460.2	3.8	3.9	461.6	3.9	4.2	1,132.5	9.4	9.3	2,732	22.8	22.8
1928	635.5	5.2	5.5	440.7	3.6	3.8	528.9	4.4	4.1	1,335.9	11.1	10.1	2,941	24.3	23.5
1929	828.8	6.8	5.9	515.0	4.2	3.9	547.6	4.5	4.4	1,591.6	12.9	12.0	3,483	28.4	26.2
1930	792.0	6.4	6.6	503.8	4.1	4.1	579.1	4.7	4.6	1,734.1	13.8	13.3	3,609	29.0	28.6
1931	608.4	4.9	5.7	420.8	3.4	3.8	437.8	3.5	4.1	1,388.0	11.0	12.6	2,855	22.8	26.2
1932	691.9	5.5	5.1	422.7	3.4	3.4	371.3	2.9	3.2	1,209.1	9.6	10.5	2,695	21.4	22.2
1933	682.1	5.4	5.4	339.5	2.7	3.1	431.7	3.4	3.2	1,277.7	10.0	9.8	2,731	21.5	21.5
1934	697.5	5.5	5.4	369.4	2.9	2.8	472.2	3.7	3.6	1,681.9	13.1	11.4	3,221	25.2	23.2
1935	828.2	6.4	5.9	620.6	4.8	3.7	612.9	4.8	4.2	1,819.3	14.2	13.7	3,881	30.2	27.5

Continued -

Table 2.- Estimated total and per capita civilian consumption of canned vegetables, 1909-43 1/ continued

Year	Tomatoes			Corn			Peas			Other 2/			Total		
	Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita		Total	Per capita	
	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year	Pack year		Cal. year
	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Lb.	Lb.
936	739.7	5.7	6.1	437.8	3.4	4.2	555.0	4.3	4.5	2,066.5	16.0	15.0	3,799	29.4	29.8
937	762.5	5.9	5.8	585.7	4.5	3.9	604.9	4.6	4.5	2,329.9	17.9	16.8	4,283	32.9	31.0
938	738.2	5.6	5.8	528.9	4.0	4.3	653.1	5.0	4.8	2,186.8	16.7	17.3	4,107	31.3	32.2
939	737.9	5.6	5.6	566.7	4.3	4.1	647.8	4.9	4.9	2,214.6	16.7	16.8	4,167	31.5	31.4
940	847.4	6.3	5.9	544.4	4.1	4.2	767.0	5.7	5.3	2,515.2	18.9	17.7	4,674	35.0	33.1
941 4/	670.1	5.0	5.8	718.9	5.4	4.7	868.1	6.5	6.2	2,877.9	21.7	20.1	5,135	38.6	36.8
942 4/	830.3	6.4	5.6	740.5	5.7	5.5	810.9	6.2	6.3	3,016.3	23.0	22.3	5,398	41.3	39.7
943 4/	546.1	4.2	5.5	611.1	4.7	5.5	803.8	6.2	6.2	2,123.0	16.4	19.9	4,084	31.5	37.1

/ In terms of canned weight, 1943 data are preliminary.

/ Included are asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, carrots, hominy, Irish potatoes, pickles (including bulk), imientos, pumpkin and squash, sauerkraut (including bulk), spinach, succotash, sweetpotatoes, tomato juice, pulp, atsup, paste, sauce, chili sauce, other greens, and mixed vegetables. Excludes baked beans, soups, and baby foods.

/ Military consumption data are not available so total consumption has been divided by the total population includng military.

/ Civilian consumption includes an allowance for members of the armed forces eating from civilian food supplies. Ending tocks, lendlease, other exports, & military takings were subtracted from the total supply to get the civilian supplies.

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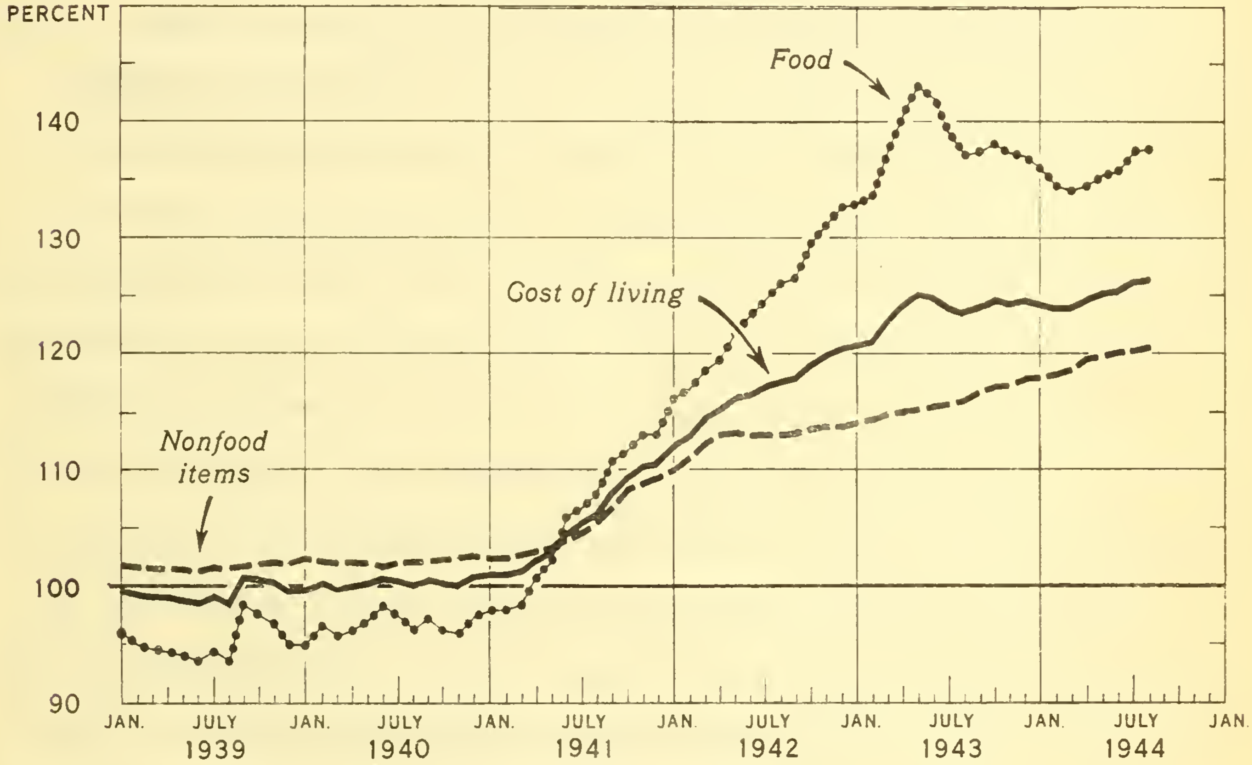
THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-20 BAE SEPTEMBER 1944

RETAIL PRICES: TOTAL COST OF LIVING, FOOD, AND NONFOOD ITEMS, 1939-44

INDEX NUMBERS (1935-39=100)



DATA FROM BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 43330 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Retail prices of all foods combined rose sharply and steadily from the early part of 1941 until May 1943 when the index reached 143.0. From that point they declined to 134.1 in March, 1944. Since then, they have moved upward to in August. During the period when food costs were declining, the cost of living remained relatively stable because of a compensating upward movement in non-food costs.

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THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

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Summary

Food supplies for civilian consumption during the last 3 months of 1944 will continue to be moderately large and not very different from the past 9 months. There will be seasonal increases in such items as poultry and citrus fruits, and continued large supplies of fresh vegetables, fluid milk, eggs, and grain products, but supplies of meat, butter, fluid cream, and evaporated milk will be somewhat shorter. This appraisal of the civilian food situation is made on the basis of present allocations for military and lend-lease use. To the extent that these are altered by the progress of the war in Europe, the outlook for civilian supplies of some products could change.

Civilian meat supplies for the rest of 1944 will be smaller than in either the corresponding period last year or during the third quarter of this year, because of the very large non-civilian takings now planned. The quality of the meat available also will be generally lower. A considerable proportion of the better grades and cuts of both beef and pork will not be available for civilians because of requirements for the armed forces. The output of the better grades of pork will increase seasonally whereas no improvement in the average quality of beef produced may be expected.

Although poultry supplies will increase seasonally during the fall and early winter, they will be somewhat below supplies for the fourth quarter of 1943. There will still be ample supplies of eggs, particularly of the lower grades.

Fluid milk supplies are expected to remain about the same as in the third quarter of 1944 and the fourth quarter of 1943, but civilians may receive a little more cheese. Fats and oils, except butter, will continue relatively plentiful for some months.

Butter, fluid cream and evaporated milk supplies for civilians will be smaller than in either the past quarter or the fourth quarter of 1943. Butter production, decreasing as usual for this time of the year, has fallen behind production in comparable months of 1943. Cream sales are restricted to 75 percent of base sales in areas under WFO 79 in an effort to increase butter production. More evaporated milk is required for non-civilian use than in previous periods.

Fresh vegetables will become less plentiful as the principal growing seasons end, but commercial truck crops for late fall and early winter marketing appear to be slightly larger than last year. However, the potato and sweetpotato crops are somewhat short of last year. This year's deciduous fruit crops have been much better than in 1943, and prospects for this winter's citrus supplies are again very favorable. Total supplies of canned fruits and vegetables for civilian use will include a very large pack of home canned goods in addition to commercial supplies. The size of the commercial pack available for civilians will be largely contingent on the procurement for noncivilian use. If Government procurement follows present allocations, the civilian supply of some canned vegetables and of canned fruits will be somewhat smaller despite some increase in the pack.

Latest crop reports still indicate that our wheat crop will be the largest in history and show a material improvement in the corn yield. This will relieve the tight feed situation to a considerable extent.

-- September 30, 1944

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Civilian meat supplies will be slightly smaller during the October-December period than the liberal supplies available during the summer, unless military and lend-lease procurement is reduced from the level now indicated by allocations. The reduction in total civilian meat supplies may be expected despite seasonally increased over-all meat production, because of scheduled increases in noncivilian purchases.

Civilians probably will benefit from the seasonally large output of veal, lamb, and mutton, but not from the increased beef and pork production. Beef and veal production this next quarter may set a new record, but the production of other meats will be less than last fall and early winter, although seasonally larger than during recent months. In fact, pork output during the rest of 1944 is expected to be materially reduced from the all-time record for this period established in 1943. Moreover, noncivilian takings of beef and pork will be large.

The better grades and cuts of beef, lamb, and pork will be particularly short relative to strong consumer demand for higher quality meats. Beef set-aside requirements reserve for purchase by war agencies almost 60 percent of the federally inspected beef output of all grades from Choice to Utility which meet army specifications. A larger proportion of the civilian beef supply than usual will be of the lower grades, as the result of expected large slaughter of grass-finished cattle and materially smaller slaughter of well-finished, grain-fed cattle during the balance of the year, as well as large war requirements for the better grades. The Government set-aside on federally inspected pork output reserves for war use a large proportion of the better pork cuts -- hams, shoulders, loins, and bacon. For this reason, the more popular cuts will become less plentiful. However, marketings of hogs throughout the fall and winter will include a smaller proportion of sows than during the summer, and over-all supplies of pork will be more desirable from a consumer standpoint. More mutton will be available as the slaughter of mature sheep increases seasonally. Slaughter during the late fall and early winter is expected to be comparatively large.

Non-Government pork holdings in commercial cold-storage decreased about a third from August 1, 1944, to September 1, much more than usual; the average decrease in the 1932-1941 period was only about 17 percent. The total quantity of meat in cold storage (including edible offal and Government holdings) on September 1, 1944, was about the same as the year before, but about 30 percent above the 1939-43 average for September 1.

Poultry and Eggs

Although the production of turkeys is expected to be 8 percent larger this year than last, increased military requirements will take most of the increase. Therefore, civilians probably will have about the same quantity of turkeys as last year.

Marketings of poultry will be at a seasonal peak during the fourth quarter of 1944. With one-fifth fewer chickens raised on farms in 1944 than in 1943, supplies available for civilians will be moderately smaller than last year.

Civilian supplies of eggs and egg products probably will be at a record level for the fourth quarter in relation to any comparable period. Although egg production is expected to be slightly below last year, heavier cold storage stocks of shell eggs than last year, and substantial reductions in requirements of eggs for drying purposes, should result in a very favorable civilian supply situation. This appears to be especially true for lower grade eggs.

Dairy Products

Civilian supplies of fluid milk and condensed milk will be about the same for the rest of 1944 as they have been in the past few months. Sales quotas for fluid milk under WFO 79 remain at approximately 100 percent of the base period (June, 1943) for September and October. Evaporated milk supplies for civilians will be reduced from the levels of consumption of the fourth quarter of 1943 and the third quarter of 1944 by heavy war requirements. A little more cheese is expected to be made available for the civilian market than was consumed during either the corresponding period of 1943 or the third quarter of 1944.

The butterfat situation has become tight in the sense that butter production has been running below last year, while noncivilian requirements have been large. However, no set aside of butter for Government purchase is required, beginning October 1. Sales quotas on fluid cream in market areas under WFO 79 jurisdiction were set at 75 percent of the base period (June, 1943) compared with 85 percent in August, and 100 percent during the summer.

On the other hand, because of the improved supply of non-fat dry milk solids, WFA has lifted set-aside restrictions on roller non-fat dry milk solids (beginning September 1), and reduced the set-aside on spray non-fat dry milk sales from 60 to 50 percent as of October 1, and has removed limitations on the use of milk solids in the manufacture of bread. WFA has also increased sales quotas on milk by-products for September and October, under WFO 79, to 100 percent of the base period and removed all restrictions on sales of cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese, effective October 1.

Effective September 3, the point values on Group III cheeses were increased from 8 to 10 points, and values on canned milk were changed from 2/3 to 1 point per 14-1/2 ounce can.

Fats and Oils

The civilian supplies of most food fats and oils, with the important exception of butter, probably will continue large enough to meet current civilian demand for the rest of 1944, but the supplies are likely to diminish by the summer of 1945. The very large supplies of lard have been the most important factor in the food fats and oils situation for some months, and they have relieved the pressure on shortening and on other edible oils. Fortunately, considerable stocks of lard are now on hand to supplement production during the 1944-45 season when output will be substantially reduced from the record output in 1943-44.

Civilian consumption of margarine in July amounted to about 28 million pounds compared with 27 million pounds in June, and an average of 39 million pounds monthly in January-May. Movement of margarine to civilians undoubtedly increased in August and September, and will increase further in the remaining months of the year. With civilian supplies of butter expected to be unusually small in October-December, consumption of margarine may reach a new quarterly peak. Total consumption of margarine in 1944 may be about 3.9 pounds per capita (actual weight basis), nearly the same as in 1943.

Butter supplies for civilian consumption during the next 3 months may well be even smaller than during the past month or two. Production is seasonally reduced, and the trade reports low distributors' stocks. Non-Government stocks of butter in commercial cold storage on September 1 totaled 62.6 million pounds, compared with 66.8 on September 1, 1943, and the 5-year average of 136.4 million (1939-43). As the result of the short total supply, maldistribution of butter over the country has been developing. Available supplies tend to go to markets close to producing areas and large urban areas on the Atlantic and Pacific seaboards have relatively much less butter. The ration point value of creamery butter was increased by OPA from 16 points per pound to 20 points per pound, effective October 1.

Fruit

At this season of the year, deciduous fruits constitute the principal part of the fruit supply. Supplies of apples and grapes are increasing.

Supplies of pears, plums, and prunes are at seasonally high levels and peach supplies are decreasing. The new crop of cranberries, which is just starting to move to market, is expected to be 38 percent smaller than last year. Indicated civilian supplies of fresh deciduous fruits, in the aggregate, are about one-fifth to one-fourth larger during the 1944-45 season than during the preceding one. Of the fresh deciduous fruits remaining to be marketed this season, there will be a larger supply of fresh apples than last season.

Marketings of fresh citrus fruits are now at seasonally low levels, as the last of the 1943-44 crop is being shipped. However, the September 1 condition of the 1944-45 crop of citrus fruit, harvesting of which will begin in October, points to a crop a little larger than for the season now ending.

Prospective civilian supplies of frozen fruit and canned fruit juices are substantially larger than the supplies last season, whereas those of canned fruits and dried fruits are considerably smaller. Citrus juices account for most of the forecasted increase in fruit juices. The packs of dried prunes and raisins will be smaller this season than last, largely because of smaller prune and grape crops. Although the pack of canned fruits is estimated to be about one-half larger than a year ago, supplies available to civilians are expected to be smaller, because of greatly increased military requirements. If it should later develop that smaller quantities of canned fruits than now allocated would be needed for war purposes, civilians would receive correspondingly more.

Vegetables

Market supplies of fresh vegetables from the late summer and fall crops will continue at a high level. The supplies of most vegetables will be larger than a year earlier, although supplies of some vegetables such as early fall tomatoes and spinach, and fall cauliflower and carrots will be smaller. Onions will be particularly abundant throughout the fall. Vegetables which will be more plentiful than last year include lettuce, cabbage, green peas, cucumbers, green peppers, snap beans, and lima beans. In the aggregate, the commercial production of fall vegetables is expected to be about 2 percent larger than the previous record crop of 1943.

This year's total production of commercial truck crops for processing will probably be around 10 percent larger than in 1943, but about 5 percent smaller than the record production of 1942. According to the September 1 Crop Report, the supply of tomatoes is indicated to be nearly one-fifth larger than in 1943, but the supply of green peas is expected to be 10 percent less than in 1943, sweet corn 6 percent less, and snap beans about 1 percent less.

Civilian supplies of some canned vegetables may be smaller this season than last unless present allocations for war use are changed as the result of the progress of the war in Europe. However, the civilian consumption of commercially canned vegetables will be supplemented by home canned supplies and victory garden produce.

The 300-million-bushel late crop of Irish potatoes is now moving to market. This is the second largest late crop of potatoes since 1935.

The per capita civilian supply of all potatoes for fresh consumption for the 1944-45 season may be some 15 percent less than the 5-year (1935-39) average consumption, and consumption in 1943-44. Market supplies of fresh potatoes for the rest of 1944 probably will continue large because of the 300 million bushel late crop of potatoes, the second largest late crop since 1935. By the first of the year, however, large noncivilian takings will reduce civilian supplies.

A sweetpotato crop 2 percent larger than average (1933-42) was indicated by the September 1 Crop Report. The 68.8 million bushel crop would, on the basis of the present estimated utilization, provide civilians with a per capita supply of fresh sweetpotatoes in 1944-45 about one-sixth less than the 1935-39 average consumption, and 10 to 15 percent below 1943-44 consumption.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

The per capita civilian consumption of food grain products is expected to be maintained throughout 1944-45 at the 1943-44 levels. Indicated production for wheat and rice, as of September 1, was less than 2 percent below the indication of August 1. There was no new report for rye.

Retail Food Prices, 1939-44

As the end of the European phase of the war approaches and reconversion is the imminent problem, changes in food prices since the beginning of the war need to be reviewed. How much have all food costs gone up? Which foods have increased most in cost since pre-war? Which foods have changed least?

The best available source of information on food costs is the data on retail prices of foods normally purchased by urban wage earners, which are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics as one part of its cost of living work.

If August 1939 is taken as the pre-war benchmark, in order to avoid problems of seasonality, the increase in total food costs from 1939 to 1944 has amounted to 47 percent. Nearly one-half of this increase came before the United States entered the war in December 1941. The following table shows the changes by major food groups:

August 1944 Retail Prices as Percentage of August 1939 Prices

Food groups	Percent
Fruits and vegetables	190
Eggs	176
Fats and oils	145
Dairy products	144
Meats	135
Sugar and sweets	132
Beverages	131
Cereals and bakery products	116

Fresh fruits and vegetables doubled in price while canned fruits and vegetables increased only 41 percent from August 1939 to August 1944. It is interesting to note that the average quantity of the fresh fruits and vegetables consumed by civilians on a per capita basis remained practically unchanged from 1939 to 1944, while the quantity of canned fruits and vegetables has declined some 15 percent, because of war requirements. On individual items, the price increase is striking. This year potatoes were selling at the average price of 80.1 cents for 15 pounds while in August, 1939 the price was 34.4 cents. Oranges were priced at 50.9 cents a dozen in August, 1944, but they were only 31.5 cents per dozen of the same grade five years before. On the other hand the prices of cabbage and lettuce have increased only a little more than a fourth.

In August, 1939, consumers in selected large cities paid, on the average, only 32.0 cents a dozen for the same grades of eggs that cost 56.5 cents a dozen in August, 1944 despite the plentiful total supply of eggs this year.

Retail prices of cereals and bakery products have changed comparatively little in the past 5 years, showing only a 16 percent increase. Although cornmeal has gone up nearly 60 percent and rice over 70 percent, bread prices have increased only 8 to 13 percent. Wheat cereal prices have actually declined slightly and 8 ounces of corn flakes now cost 6.5 cents compared with the 7.0 cent average in August, 1939 and 7.2 cents in August, 1940. Meanwhile, per capita consumption of cereals increased slightly.

Retail meat prices are up about a third, but most of the increase came in 1942. (Table 1) Pork chops, for example, cost about 6.4 cents more a pound in August this year than they did 5 years ago. The increase in the retail price of veal cutlets has been less than 3 cents per pound. But salt pork and leg of lamb prices have risen over 40 percent.

In contrast with some of the increases in food costs noted above, costs of non-food items normally purchased by urban wage earners increased only 19 percent from August, 1939 to August, 1944. The 39 percent increase in clothing costs was balanced by the small changes in prices of such items as rents, fuel, and utilities. Finally, the total cost of living increased 28 percent during the 5-year period in question. All of these data are gathered and compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor.

Table 1. - Index of retail food prices and total cost of living 1923-1944
(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year	Meats	Eggs	Dairy Products	Fats and Oils	Fruits and Vegetables			Cereals and Bakery Products	Sugar and Sweets	Beverages	All Foods	Cost of Living
					Fresh	Canned	Dried					
1923	101	136	129	126	174	125	175	106	175	132	124	122
1924	102	139	124	134	163	128	160	107	159	148	123	122
1925	111	151	128	149	194	132	159	116	125	170	133	125
1926	118	142	127	145	226	123	152	116	120	170	137	126
1927	116	133	131	133	194	121	146	113	127	163	132	124
1928	123	137	131	128	166	121	154	110	123	165	131	123
1929	127	144	131	127	174	124	171	108	114	165	133	123
1930	119	121	121	119	186	119	159	104	107	143	126	119
1931	101	96	103	96	129	103	119	91	99	125	104	109
1932	79	82	85	71	106	91	91	83	90	113	86	98
1933	69	78	83	66	119	88	88	85	94	102	84	92
1934	79	89	91	76	122	104	101	98	98	108	94	96
1935	100	104	98	110	99	106	101	102	101	104	100	98
1936	99	103	102	103	106	101	97	101	100	99	101	99
1937	106	101	105	106	109	103	116	103	101	104	105	103
1938	99	100	100	94	92	97	93	100	98	98	98	101
1939	97	91	96	88	95	92	93	94	101	96	95	99
1940	96	94	101	82	97	92	101	97	97	92	97	100
1941	108	112	112	94	104	98	107	98	106	102	105	105
1942	126	136	125	120	133	122	136	105	127	122	124	117
1943	134	162	135	126	178	131	159	108	127	125	138	124
1944												
Jan.	131	154	134	124	175	130	163	108	127	124	136	124
Feb.	131	143	134	124	171	130	163	108	127	124	135	124
Mar.	131	136	134	124	171	130	163	108	126	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	178	130	163	108	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	183	129	164	108	126	123	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	185	129	164	108	126	123	136	125
July 2/	129	149	134	123	188	129	165	109	127	123	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	187	129	165	108	126	124	138	126

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Includes meat, fish, and poultry. 2/ Preliminary.

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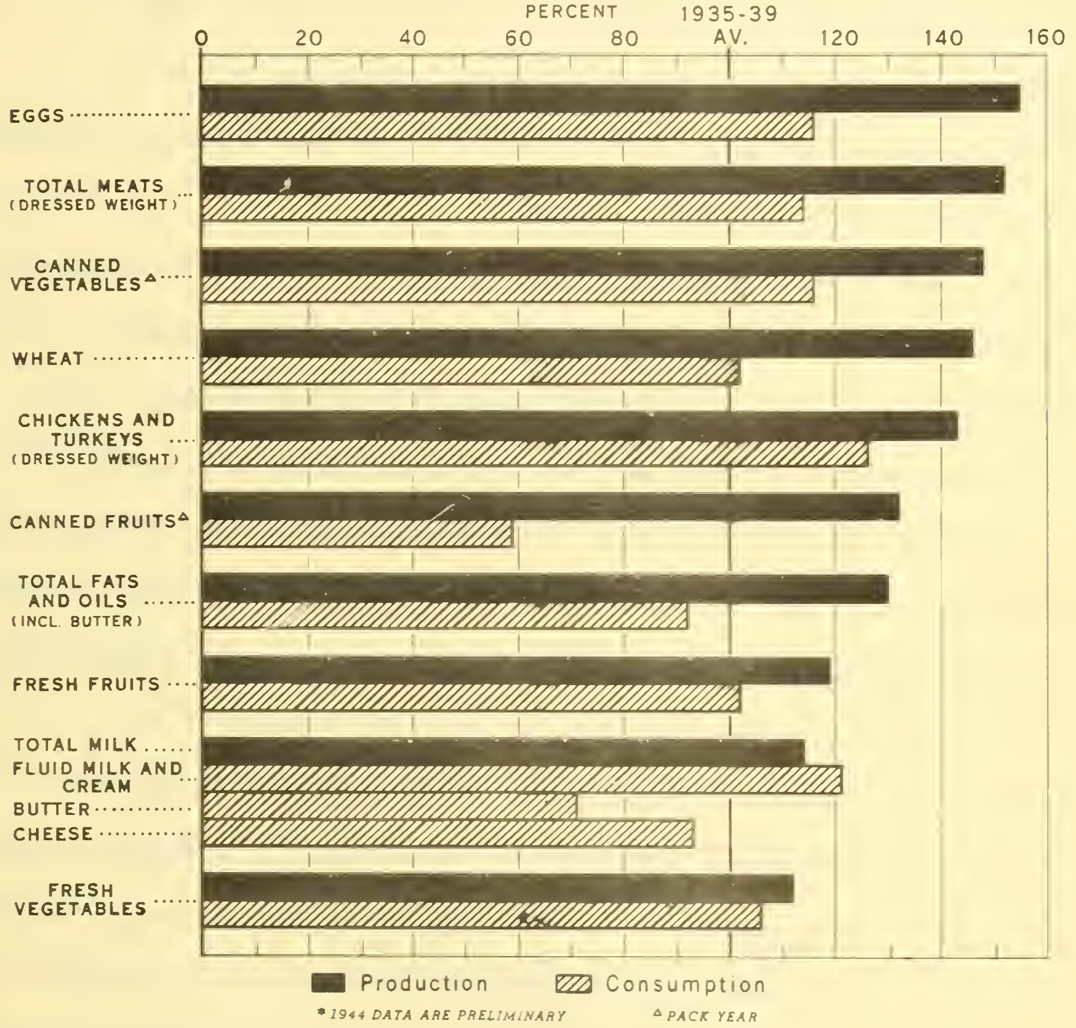
1945 OUTLOOK ISSUE

THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-21 OCTOBER 1944

CHANGES IN THE PRODUCTION AND CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION OF MAJOR FOODS FROM THE 1935-39 AVERAGE TO 1944*



*1944 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY Δ PACK YEAR

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG 43936 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Food commodities with large non-civilian requirements are indicated by the comparison of war-time changes in production and civilian consumption. Tremendous increases in the production of most foods have been made to meet non-civilian requirements. At the same time, civilian consumption of most foods has increased. The major exceptions are canned fruits, butter, and cheese. Increased milk production has meant more fluid milk and cream for civilians, but butter and cheese consumption has been materially reduced.

THE NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

SUMMARY

The total civilian supply of food in 1945 is expected to continue about the same as in 1944, when per capita civilian consumption has been at least 7 percent above the pre-war average, 1935-39. Supplies of some fruits, turkeys, and beef may be larger next year, but supplies of pork, potatoes, butter, and, perhaps, chicken and some fresh vegetables may be smaller. Civilian food supplies will not be generally changed by the end of the European war since non-civilian requirements will continue to take a substantial proportion of the total food supplies throughout 1945.

For the year 1944 as a whole, civilian supplies of most of the manufactured dairy products, canned fruits and vegetables, better grades of beef, and turkeys have been short of civilian demand at ceiling prices. However, relatively large supplies of cereal products, lard, margarine, eggs, pork, canned fruit juices, and the principal fresh fruits, particularly citrus, have been available for civilian consumption. Even though sales of fluid milk and cream have been somewhat restricted, their consumption reached a new high and has been very important in meeting civilian nutritive needs.

Civilian meat supplies, particularly pork, were very large until summer. Since then, they have been reduced considerably by seasonal decreases in production during the summer and by markedly increasing war requirements for the last quarter. However, meat consumption for the year as a whole will probably be from 140 to 145 pounds per capita. In 1945, it appears that civilians will get much less pork but more beef. Per capita consumption of all meat will fall but will probably be still above the 126-pound average in 1935-39.

Egg consumption in 1944 has been unusually high, even with the very large meat consumption. It is probable that civilians will consume at least as many eggs next year. Chicken supplies for civilians probably will be reduced a little because of some decrease in production. Turkey supplies may increase somewhat.

Butter supplies for civilians next year might be below the level of 1943 and 1944 because production may fall off again next year. Fluid milk supplies will continue at a near record level. Cheese and evaporated milk will probably continue to be short of full civilian demand. If non-civilian requirements continue at the 1944 rate, less lard would be available for civilians next year because of the reduction in hog slaughter. Supplies of shortening and edible oils for civilians may be about the same in 1945 as in 1944, but smaller than in 1943. However, margarine supplies may be slightly increased.

Civilian fruit and vegetable supplies in 1944 have been about the same in total as in average pre-war years, 1935-39, and, if weather conditions are about average, there may be little change in over-all supplies next year. Canned fruits have been short, but there have been large increases over 1943 in the consumption of canned fruit juices and fresh fruit, particularly citrus, and some increased consumption of dried fruits. Canned fruits will continue short in 1945. Increased supplies of bananas and other fresh fruits from outside the country might balance possible decreases in fresh deciduous fruit production.

Similarly in vegetables, fresh supplies in 1944 have been large, but supplies of some of the commercially processed vegetables have been somewhat short of civilian demand. During 1945, supplies of some fresh vegetables may decrease from the very high levels of 1944. However, supplies from Victory Gardens and home canning may be expected to continue large. The potato supply will be somewhat shorter during the first part of 1945 than in 1944.

Current civilian supplies of canned vegetables are sufficient to meet demand in most areas, but non-civilian requirements from the 1944 pack are of such magnitude that civilians may have reduced supplies before the 1945 pack becomes available about the middle of the year. Civilians may get more canned vegetables in the latter part of 1945, if the new pack is about as large as this year, and if non-civilian requirements from the 1945 pack are smaller than this year.

Cereal products have been generally plentiful in 1944, and supplies for next year will be adequate to meet all food needs.

-- October 31, 1944.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

Meats

Review of 1944

Civilian meat consumption for this year has been a little above last year's rate, averaging some 140 to 145 pounds. Supplies were relatively abundant during the first half of the year, but they have become much less plentiful since summer. The recent decrease in civilian supplies has been the result of increased requirements by the armed forces and lend-lease, which more than offset seasonal increases in meat production during the fall.

Beef consumption per capita in 1944 apparently has been about 51 pounds, practically the same as in 1943. However, the quality of the beef has averaged somewhat lower than usual. Veal consumption has increased about four pounds, or fifty percent, to establish a new record. Consumption of pork has been about the same as the 73 pounds consumed in 1943. Lamb and mutton consumption has fallen slightly from last year's level.

Ration point values were low during the first four months of the year. From May to July, point values for most meats, except the better grades of beef steaks and roasts, were set at zero. In July, they were raised on the better grades and cuts of lamb, and in mid-August point values were placed on the more popular pork cuts.

Outlook for 1945

Present prospects for 1945 indicate that civilian meat supplies will be well below the estimated 1944 rate of 140-145 pounds per capita, but above the average annual rate of 126 pounds in the 1935-39 period. During the first half of the year, non-civilian requirements will continue relatively

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption, and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941-44, with percentage comparisons

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1942	1943	1944 1/	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Food grains 2/	131	139	114	153	134
Truck crops 3/	116	129	121	140	116
Fruits and nuts 4/	113	117	106	121	114
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	100	104	128	106	83
Sugar crops 6/	97	110	80	83	104
Total food crops 7/	116	124	116	130	112
Meat animals 8/	118	132	150	152	101
Poultry 9/	116	131	152	150	99
Dairy products 10/	110	114	113	113	100
Total food livestock	115	126	138	138	100
Total food production	115	125	132	133	103
Total agricultural production	113	124	129	133	103
Civilian per capita food consumption	108	107	106	107	101

1/ Production indexes are based on the October crop report and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1944.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for manufacture (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average: 1935-1939	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Pound	Pound	Pound	Pound	Pound	Percent	Percent
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	60.5	61.2	49.8	51	93	102
Veal	8.0	7.6	8.0	7.9	12	150	152
Lamb and Mutton	6.7	6.8	7.2	6.3	6	90	95
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	66.5	61.5	72.6	74	132	102
Total Meats	125.6	141.4	137.9	136.6	143	114	105
Poultry Products							
Eggs 2/	37.3	38.8	38.9	42.9	43.4	116	101
Chickens (dressed weight)	17.9	19.4	21.5	28.1	22.7	127	81
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.2	123	100
Dairy Products							
Total milk	801.3	806.9	839.7	767.2	777	97	101
Cheese	5.5	6.0	6.3	5.1	5.1	93	100
Cond. and Evap. milk	16.7	18.2	18.9	18.9	15.1	90	80
Fluid milk and cream	340.1	350.6	371.8	403.3	411	121	102
Fats and Oils							
Butter, farm and factory	16.7	15.9	15.6	11.9	12.0	72	101
Lard	11.0	14.2	13.6	14.5	14.0	127	97
Margarine (fat content)	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.2	3.2	139	100
Compounds and vegetable cooking fats (fat content) 3/	11.7	10.4	8.9	9.6	9.2	79	96
Other food products and uses (fat content)	6.3	8.3	8.1	6.4	6.0	95	94
Total fats and oils 4/	48.0	51.0	48.4	45.5	44.5	93	98
Fruits							
Fresh:							
Citrus	48.8	57.1	57.0	59.7	65.6	134	110
Apples (commercial)	30.2	30.9	26.7	25.2	26.9	89	107
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	59.4	46.1	36.1	49.1	83	136
Processed:							
Canned fruit	14.9	19.3	14.9	10.0	8.8	59	88
Canned juices	4.1	8.5	6.8	6.0	8.2	200	137
Frozen	.7	1.3	1.6	1.4	1.9	271	136
Dried	5.6	4.9	4.3	5.8	4.9	88	84
Vegetables							
Fresh	235.3	240.5	250.7	235.4	250.2	106	106
Canned	31.1	38.6	38.7	36.1	36.2	116	100
Frozen	5/ .4	.7	1.0	.8	1.2	300	150
Potatoes	130.6	124.1	118.3	132.4	111.0	85	84
Sweetpotatoes	23.3	20.6	19.6	22.7	22.2	95	98
Beans, dry edible	8.8	8.7	9.1	8.5	8.0	91	94

-- Continued

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 with percentage comparisons 1/ -Continued

Commodity	Average 1935-1939	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
	Pound	Pound	Pound	Pound	Pound	Percent	Percent
Sugar (refined)	96.5	103.6	86.2	80.3	84.0	87	105
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	23.9	22.5	21.8	22.6	22.6	95	100
Corn sirup	7.7	8.7	14.3	10.5	10.1	131	96
Corn starch	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	115	94
Corn sugar	3.2	4.7	5.5	4.6	4.4	138	96
Breakfast food	1.7	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.5	147	96
Hominy	1.2	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.8	150	100
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.8	4.7	121	98
Barley:							
Barley food products 6/	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	125	100
Wheat:							
Flour 7/	154.0	152.5	153.9	159.3	159.6	104	100
Breakfast food	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	103	100
Rye:							
Rye flour	2.4	3.2	3.7	3.8	3.8	158	100
Rice milled	5.8	5.6	6.5	5.8	6.1	105	105
Beverages							
Coffee 8/	14.0	15.5	13.4	13.1	16.5	118	126
Tea	.7	.8	.5	.5	.6	86	120
Cocoa	4.4	4.8	3.8	2.9	3.4	77	117

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official census estimates of total population adjusted for underenumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of military personnel. It is assumed that approximately 15 percent of food consumed by military personnel is obtained through normal distribution channels.

1/ Data for 1944 are preliminary. Calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July 1; fresh citrus fruits, sweetpotatoes and dry edible beans on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year. For more detailed explanation see footnotes Table 3.

2/ In terms of number of eggs the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 311 in 1941, 311 in 1942, 343 in 1943, and 347 in 1944.

3/ Also called shortening.

4/ Computed from unrounded totals.

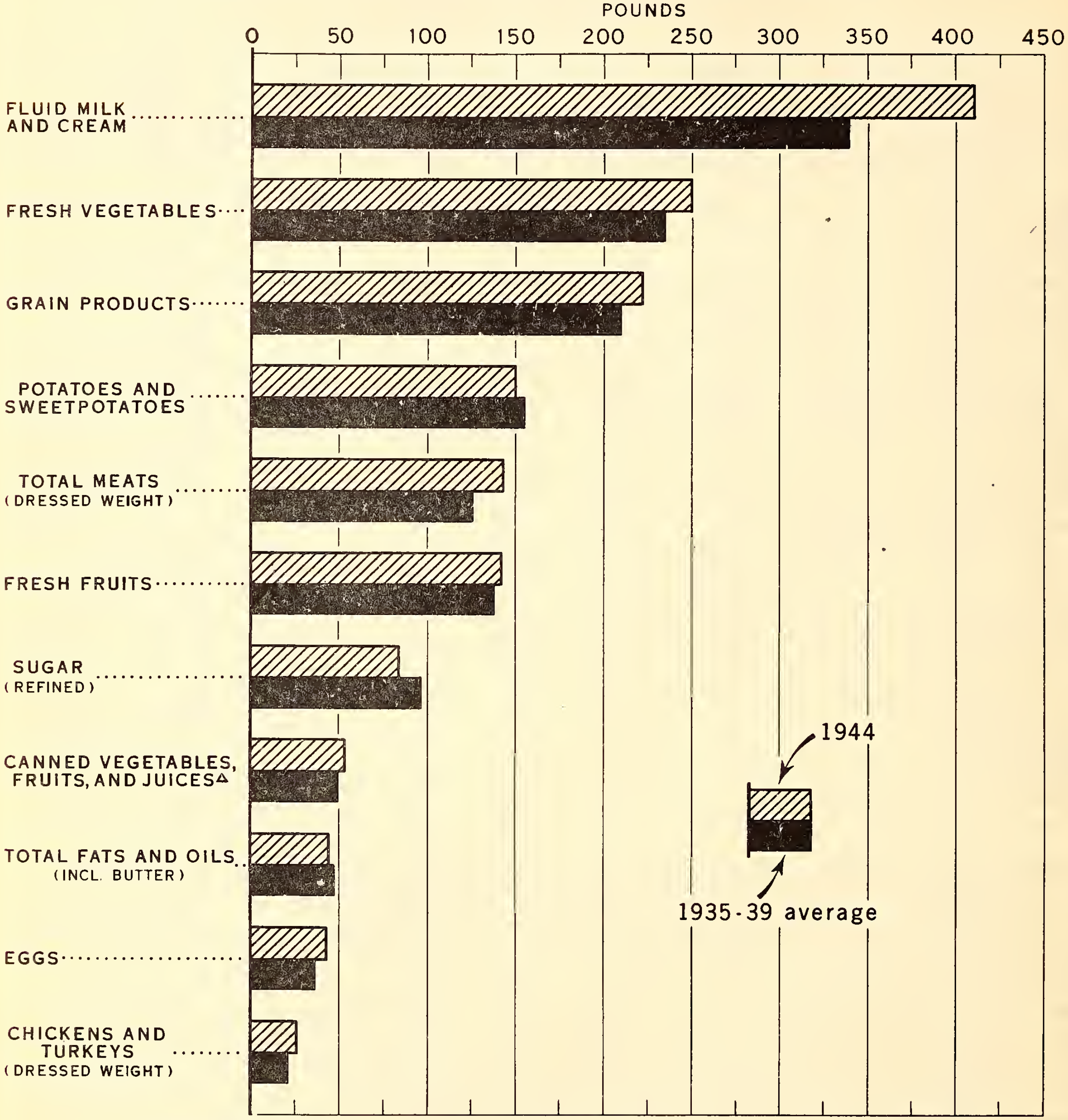
5/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

6/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent.

7/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour.

8/ Green bean basis.

CIVILIAN PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF MAJOR FOOD COMMODITIES, 1935-39 AVERAGE AND 1944*



*1944 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY

△CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES ARE ON A PACK YEAR BASIS

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FIGURE I

This chart shows the poundage composition of the average civilian diet prior to the war (1935-39) and in 1944. The most important commodity on a poundage basis is fluid milk and cream. The increase of 71 pounds in the consumption of fluid milk and cream (fluid milk equivalent) has been a major contribution to maintaining both the bulk and the nutritive value of the war time diet. Other food commodities have not changed so much in pounds although the 17 pound increase in the per capita consumption of meats and the 13 pound decrease in sugar consumption are notable because the consumption of both has been restricted this year.

heavy. With the considerable reduction in pork production from the record output of the first 9 months of 1944, total civilian meat supplies will decrease somewhat from the level of the last few months of 1944. In the last few months of the year, the over-all civilian meat supply situation may be expected to improve if military and lend-lease requirements are reduced by the middle of the year.

Supplies of beef and veal for civilian consumption probably will be moderately larger in 1945 than in 1944. Furthermore, a larger quantity of better grade beef will be produced. The number of cattle that will be fed this winter is expected to be larger than a year earlier, and they may be finished for a longer period. Marketings of well-finished cattle have been very small since late spring, 1944.

Pork supplies for civilians will be materially reduced in the first 9 months of 1945 from the very large supplies of the corresponding period of 1944, and will average much below 1944 for the year 1945 as a whole. A major decrease in pork production will result from the large reduction in the number of pigs raised in 1944. Military and export requirements are expected to continue relatively large, at least in the first half of 1945.

Civilian per capita supplies of lamb and mutton probably will be smaller than in 1943 and 1944. Production of lamb and mutton may be moderately reduced in 1945, because the lamb crop probably will be smaller. Ewe slaughter may be smaller than the relatively large slaughter this year. Noncivilian requirements are relatively small.

Poultry and Eggs

Review of 1944

Per capita consumption of eggs in 1944 appears to have been slightly above that in 1943, around 345 to 350 eggs, despite large war requirements. This was made possible by the 4 to 6 percent increase in total egg production. The ratio of total civilian consumption to total war requirements has been about three to one. In both 1943 and 1944, civilian consumption was some 16 percent above the 1935-39 average annual rate. The retail price of eggs in major cities reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics averaged 50.8 cents from January to September, 1944, compared with 54.2 cents in comparable months of 1943.

The consumption of 22.7 pounds of chicken by civilians in 1944 is about 5.4 pounds per capita smaller than the record rate of 28.1 pounds consumed in 1943, but 4.8 pounds above the 5-year pre-war average. There are several reasons for this decrease from 1943. The 1944 civilian per capita meat supply, excluding poultry, has been a little larger than in 1943. The production of broilers in 1944 was some 10 percent below the 1943 record, and there was a 20 percent decline in the number of chickens raised. Military requirements have been much larger than in 1943. Civilian demand for the roasters and fryers at ceiling prices has apparently been as large or larger than the available supply throughout most of the year. The demand for other chickens has not been quite as strong, and prices have been at times below ceilings in some areas.

Turkey supplies for civilian consumption appear to be averaging about the same in 1944 as in 1943, - 3.3 pounds per capita, compared with 2.6 pounds in the 1935-39 period. Despite a 9 percent increase in production, civilian consumption remained at the 1943 level because of the increase in war requirements.

Outlook for 1945

Although a decrease in egg production of 8 to 12 percent is expected, reduced non-civilian requirements will make ample supplies of eggs available for civilians, especially during the first six months. If there are declines in retail prices, civilians may consume at least as many eggs per capita as in the past two years, even with slightly smaller purchasing power. Meat supplies for civilians are expected to be quite short of demand during the months of peak egg supplies.

Supplies of chickens for civilian consumption in 1945 may be a little smaller than this year. This would result from fewer chickens on farms at the beginning of the year and a prospective reduction in the number of chickens raised in 1945 compared with 1944, although broiler production may increase. These reduced supplies may be offset to some extent by possible smaller military requirements.

Civilian consumption of turkey in 1945 is expected to be at least as large as the 3-1/4 pound per capita consumption in 1943 and 1944. If military needs for turkey should be substantially smaller in 1945, civilian supplies might be large enough in 1945 to permit a consumption of some 3.5 pounds per capita, 35 percent above 1935-39 and not far from the record level of 3.7 pounds in 1942. Production of turkeys in 1945 is likely to be at least as large as this year. Civilian demand for turkeys in 1945 is expected to absorb available supplies at ceiling prices. The smaller civilian consumption of turkeys in 1943 and 1944 was due to curtailment of supplies by war requirements.

Dairy Products

Review of 1944

Civilian supplies of most dairy products in 1944 have been about the same as in 1943. Total milk production remained practically unchanged. The increase in non-civilian requirements for 1944, compared with last year, is being met by depleting stocks of such manufactured products as butter and evaporated milk. Fluid milk and cream consumption by civilians has reached a new peak of about 411 pounds (milk equivalent) per capita, and would have been greater if there had been no restrictions on sales of fluid milk and cream in most of the major market areas. Fluid cream consumption has been restricted to a greater extent than the consumption of fluid milk. Creamery butter production in 1944 appears to be the lowest in 19 years, and war requirements have continued large. Consequently, civilian consumption has been kept at the very low rate of about 12 pounds, the same as in 1943, and consumer rationing has been necessary throughout the year. Large stocks on January 1, 1944, have been decreased considerably. Civilian per capita butter consumption averaged 16.7 pounds per year in the 1935-39 period.

Heavy war requirements have reduced per capita civilian supplies and consumption of condensed and evaporated milk from the 18.9 pounds consumed in 1943 to about 15 pounds in 1944. Cheese consumption has been about the same as last year because stocks have been drawn on to meet part of the non-civilian requirements. The civilian supply in 1944 has consisted of a slightly larger proportion of American Cheddar cheese than in 1943. Per capita consumption of all whole-milk cheeses in 1944 has averaged about 5.1 pounds compared with 6.3 pounds in 1942 and the 5.5 pound average in 1935-39.

Civilian supplies of ice cream have been far below demand as the result of Government controls to divert milk into products needed to fill war requirements. Supplies of non-fat dry milk solids were short during the early part of the year. The situation has improved since summer so that some use limitations have been removed, set-asides on spray process powder reduced, and those on roller process powder removed.

Outlook for 1945

Total supplies of milk and milk products available for civilians may be about the same as in 1944, if military and lend-lease requirements are moderately reduced from the 1944 rate, which took about one-sixth of the total milk supply. An increase of a billion pounds in milk production may be possible if returns to dairy farmers remain at 1944 levels, but this will not increase the quantity of civilian supplies. Production in 1944 was supplemented by a net depletion in stocks of some manufactured dairy products amounting to about 3 billion pounds, milk equivalent.

Supplies of fluid milk and cream for civilian consumption, which averaged 411 pounds per capita in 1944, may have been below full demand. Accordingly, even with some decrease in consumer incomes in 1945, the civilian demand for fluid milk and cream probably will not be below the 1944 consumption rate. Butter production in 1945 may be slightly less than in 1944, and stocks at the beginning of the year will be materially smaller than on January 1, 1944. Civilian per capita consumption in 1945 will be less than the rate of about 12 pounds in 1943 and 1944, even though there should be some reduction in non-civilian requirements.

Although the production of evaporated and condensed milk probably will increase in 1945, the low level of stocks and the likelihood of continued large non-civilian requirements probably will keep civilian consumption close to the 1944 level. Much the same over-all supply situation is expected in Cheddar cheese, but non-civilian requirements may be smaller, with a consequent slight increase in civilian supplies. Supplies of other cheese might be a little smaller.

Fats and Oils

Review of 1944

The consumption of food fats and oils by civilians in 1944 has been at the estimated rate of 44.5 pounds per capita compared with 45.5 pounds a year earlier and an average of 48 pounds in 1935-39.

Much of the decrease in food fats and oils consumption since before the war (1935-39 average) has been in butter, with the decrease in the consumption of shortening being balanced by increased lard consumption. The apparent decrease of one pound from 1943 to 1944 in the per capita consumption of all food fats and oils was the result of several factors. Among the more important of these were the increased recovery of fats in homes, increased efficiency in the utilization of fats and oils in homes and restaurants, and the tightening of controls over manufacturers' use of fats and oils in edible products. There may also have been some reduction in stocks held by both distributors and consumers. Such changes in stocks cannot be measured directly.

Per capita disappearance of shortening in 1944 is estimated at 9.2 pounds compared with 9.6 pounds in 1943. Civilian use of salad and cooking oils in 1944 (including use in mayonnaise, salad dressing and other food products except shortening and margarine) also declined slightly.

Civilian butter consumption in 1944 has been about 12 pounds per capita, over 4-1/2 pounds less than in 1935-39 but about the same as in 1943. In the spring of 1944, supplies for civilians were larger than a year earlier because considerably less was needed from current supplies to meet military and lend-lease commitments. Supplies of butter for civilians in the last half of 1944 have been somewhat smaller than a year earlier. The basic reason for the short civilian butter supply in 1944 has been the reduction in production. Production of butter in the first 9 months of 1944 was 12 percent smaller than in the corresponding period of 1943. With little change in average butter consumption in 1944, civilian takings of margarine have remained at about the same level as the 3.9 pounds per capita consumed in 1943, actual weight basis (3.2 pounds in terms of fat content). Consumption of margarine in 1935-39 averaged 2.9 pounds per capita, actual weight.

The indicated civilian food consumption of lard in 1944 amounts to 14 pounds per capita, half a pound less than a year earlier. Output of lard in 1944, estimated at 3,300 million pounds, is over 200 million pounds greater than a year earlier, but the effect of this increase on civilian supplies has been more than offset by expanded Government purchases for lend-lease exports, greater use of lard in soap, and increased commercial exports.

Outlook for 1945

Supplies of butter available to civilians may be further reduced in 1945. Total supplies of butter in 1945, including stocks at the beginning of the year, are likely to be somewhat less than in 1944, and present prospects are for military and lend-lease requirements to be about as great as in 1944. This reduction, however, may be partly offset by increased consumption of margarine.

Production of lard in 1945 may total around 2,450 million pounds compared with 3,300 million pounds in 1944. Stocks at the beginning of the year will be substantially larger than at the beginning of 1944, but this will only partly offset the reduction in output. A tight situation in lard probably will develop in 1945, if exports continue large.

Civilian supplies of shortening and edible oils may be about the same in 1945 as this year. These supplies would be reduced, however, if requirements for exports of oilseeds to Europe should develop.

Fruit

Review of 1944

Civilian fruit supplies have been larger this year than in 1943, but about the same as the pre-war (1935-39) level of consumption. The supplies of canned fruits available for civilian consumption have been short. However, there has been an increase of over a third in canned fruit juices, and an increase of about 15 percent in the per capita civilian supplies of all fresh fruits. There has also been some increase in dried fruits. During the calendar year 1944, civilians have received only about 3/5 of the total canned fruit supply because of large war requirements. About a third of the 1943-44 supply went for non-civilian use, principally military, whereas up to a half of the much larger 1944-45 supply may go to fill war requirements. Principal canned fruits have been rationed throughout the year with per capita supplies considerably below both current demand and pre-war consumption levels. Because of increased production of fruit juices, most of them were removed from rationing early in the year.

Supplies of citrus for civilian consumption in 1944 have reached a new high because of the 13 percent increase in the 1943-44 crop. The crops of both oranges and grapefruit were of record size. Apples were relatively scarce early in the year because of the small 1943 crop. This year's crop is about average in size. Consumption of commercial apples by civilians may be about 27 pounds per capita, a little above the 1943 rate but about 3 pounds below the 1935-39 rate, because of non-civilian requirements. Supplies of fresh fruits, other than citrus and apples, with the principal exceptions of prunes, grapes, and cranberries, have been much larger than last year. Civilian consumption of these fruits in 1944 is estimated at about 49 pounds per capita compared with 36 pounds in 1943. However, 1944 consumption of fresh fruits, other than citrus and apples, has still been about 10 pounds below the 1935-39 rate, despite average domestic production, because the imports and insular shipments of fresh fruits such as pineapples, and bananas have been only about 50 percent of the pre-war quantities.

Outlook for 1945

Total civilian fruit supplies in the calendar year 1945 may be about the same as in 1944. These supplies include the domestic production of fresh and canned fruit, imports, and shipments from insular areas. Imports are principally bananas, while canned pineapple and pineapple juice account for the bulk of insular shipments of fruit.

The new 1944-45 crop of citrus fruits, of which oranges and grapefruit are already being marketed in large volume, was indicated, on the basis of October 1 conditions, to be slightly larger in the aggregate than the record large 1943-44 crop.

Since October 1, the hurricane in Florida has severely damaged the grapefruit and orange crops. On the basis of the recent special survey in

Florida, and of October 1 conditions elsewhere, it now appears that the total grapefruit crop will be smaller than in the past two years, but larger than the 1941-42 crop. Production of oranges may be a little below the 1944 record crop. Accordingly, the total national citrus crop may be about 6 percent smaller than the record large 1943-44 crop. Aggregate production of the major deciduous fruits is likely to be slightly smaller in 1945 than in 1944, if average growing conditions prevail.

Civilian supplies of canned fruit in 1945 will continue to be greatly below demand and the situation is not expected to be materially different from that in 1944 when civilian per capita consumption averaged about 9 pounds, compared with about 15 pounds in the pre-war period 1935-39. Civilian supplies of canned fruit juices will continue large. Per capita consumption in 1944 has been about 8 pounds, or approximately double the pre-war level.

Supplies of bananas, pineapples, etc., from outside the country may be moderately larger in 1945 than during 1944 because some fruit boats are being turned back to commercial use, and the general shipping situation in the Western Hemisphere may be expected to improve somewhat with the end of the war in Europe.

This year's crop of walnuts, almonds, filberts, and pecans is indicated to be about one-seventh larger than last year, and half again as large as the 1933-42 average. Therefore, civilian supplies of nuts for the holiday season and for 1945 will be a little larger than for 1943-44.

Vegetables

Review of 1944

The over-all supply of vegetables for civilian consumption in 1944 appears to be slightly larger on a per capita basis than last year, but about the same as the average consumption in 1935-39. Fresh vegetable consumption this year is expected to total 250 pounds per capita compared with 235 pounds in 1943, and the average for 1935-39. The record production of truck crops during most of the year has contributed heavily to this high consumption level. Military requirements for fresh vegetables are comparatively small. Civilians benefited from the record potato crop of 1943-44, as shown by the per capita supply of 132 pounds compared with 118 pounds per capita from the 1942-43 crop. Supplies have been smaller since summer because of the smaller crop and continued non-civilian takings. Sweetpotatoes have been slightly more plentiful than in 1943. Consumption of dry edible beans in 1944 has been somewhat below the 1943 rate because of the smaller crop, larger war requirements, and, possibly, some reduction in demand.

Civilian supplies of all canned vegetables combined from the 1943-44 commercial pack are estimated at 36 pounds per capita, 7 percent less than from the previous pack. Supplies from the 1944-45 pack probably will not be greatly different from those of the 1943-44. From these data on civilian supplies from the commercial packs, it appears that consumption of commercially canned vegetables in calendar 1944 has been about the same as last year's rate. Commercially canned vegetable supplies have been supplemented by home canned goods as well as fresh vegetables from commercial sources and Victory Gardens. Frozen vegetable consumption is still small on a per capita basis, only 1.2 pounds, but this was almost a half a pound more than the average quantity consumed in 1943.

Outlook for 1945

Although it is too early to predict next year's total vegetable supplies for civilian consumption, it is possible to note the important factors in the over-all supply situation. Fresh vegetable supplies for civilians depend, primarily, on acreages planted and on yields. The influence of war requirements is very small. Acreages planted depend in large part on the demand and price outlook. Since civilian consumption in 1944 was very large because of record acreages and unusually high yields, the civilian consumption of fresh vegetables in 1945 is likely to fall below the 1944 rate of 250 pounds per capita. But it probably will be at least as large as the 1935-39 rate of 235 pounds per capita.

Non-civilian requirements from the 1944 pack of canned vegetables are of such magnitude that, although current civilian supplies are large, civilians might have reduced supplies before the 1945 pack becomes available next year. However, civilians may get more canned vegetables in the latter part of 1945, if the new pack is about as large as in 1944, and if non-civilian requirements are smaller.

Although point values on some canned vegetables were set at zero for part of the year, rationing of vegetables restricted the civilian consumption somewhat below what civilians might have taken. With only a small reduction in consumer purchasing power from the 1944 level expected, civilian demand for canned vegetables in total may be nearly as high as the consumption rates in 1940-41 (35.0 pounds) and 1941-42 (38.6 pounds).

Potato supplies during the spring of 1945 will be smaller than the plentiful supplies in the spring of 1944. The 1944 crop is estimated to be 17 percent below the record crop in 1943.

Wheat, Rye and Rice

Wheat

The moderate increase in the food use of wheat in the past 2 years has brought civilian per capita consumption to about 226 pounds in 1944, some 5 pounds above the 1935-39 average rate. Civilian demand has been met in full. Despite tremendous wartime increases in the use of wheat for feed and industrial alcohol, there has been no shortage of wheat for food. The total disappearance of wheat has increased from an average of 720 million bushels in 1932-41 to nearly 1,300 million bushels during the crop year 1943-44. To supply the heavy feed and alcohol requirements in 1943-44, carry-over stocks were reduced from 622 million bushels on July 1, 1943, to 315 million bushels on July 1, 1944, and over 125 million were imported.

Wheat supplies sufficient to cover all food needs and continued large non-food use were assured by the record wheat crop this summer of 1,109 million bushels. Next year's crop will round out the 1945 supply picture quite satisfactorily, even if yields should turn out to be somewhat below normal as the result of adverse growing conditions, since acreage may be further increased next year. State wheat acreage goals for the 1945 crop, announced August 15, are 1.9 million above the 1944 seeded acreage and 2.9 million above the 20-year (1924-43) average.

The U. S. wheat supply situation is best analyzed as part of the world supply and demand situation. World stocks of wheat in the present war have been very large, in contrast with supplies in World War I. Supplies in the four principal exporting countries on July 1, 1943, totaled 1,750 million bushels -- an all-time record high. On July 1, 1944, they were down to about 1,170 million bushels and on July 1, 1945, they are expected to be lower. However, such stocks would still be greatly above the 1935-39 average of 457 million bushels. Production in Argentina and Australia in late 1944, especially in the latter country where drought conditions have been severe, is expected to be substantially below average. This would be more than offset by the very large increase in production in both the United States and Canada.

Rye

The per capita civilian consumption of 5 pounds of rye as food in 1944 has been larger than in any of the past 20 years, despite the smallest crop since 1936. Supplies of rye may be expected to continue adequate to meet all food needs. A considerable demand in 1945-46 for rye for alcohol or spirits and some export demand are expected, but feed usage probably will decrease substantially, and there might be some reduction in the demand for rye for food.

Rice

The use of rice as food by civilians in 1944 has averaged about 6 pounds, a little above the 1943 rate, which was equal to the average in 1935-39. If average yields are assumed on a somewhat smaller acreage than in 1944, estimated needs for food will be met in 1945, as well as demand for seed and substantial quantities for export.

Table 3.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, with percentage comparison 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-1939	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil. lb.	6,936	8,092	8,831	8,536	9,124	132	107
Veal	"	1,038	1,029	1,139	1,142	1,676	161	147
Lamb and mutton	"	871	925	1,045	1,107	975	112	88
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	9,447	10,723	13,371	12,812	175	96
Total meats	"	16,182	19,493	21,738	24,156	24,587	152	102
Poultry products								
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	3,828	4,430	4,965	5,164	155	104
Chickens (dressed weight)	Mil. lb.	2,325	2,642	2,988	3,821	3,330	143	87
Turkeys (dressed weight)	"	350	468	496	466	507	145	109
Dairy products								
Total milk for human consumption 2/	"	103,656	115,196	118,773	117,689	117,160	113	100
Cheese 3/	"	663	956	1,109	993	1,006	150	101
Condensed and evaporated milk	"	2,225	3,555	3,782	3,353	3,593	161	107
Fluid milk and cream 4/	"	44,146	46,900	49,514	53,929	54,735	124	101
Fats and oils								
Butter, farm and factory	"	2,170	2,268	2,130	2,014	1,839	85	91
Lard 2/ 5/	"	1,624	2,221	2,398	2,920	3,075	189	105
Margarine (fat content)	"	303	297	347	500	503	166	101
Compounds and vegetable cooking fats (fat content)	"	1,529	1,409	1,300	1,438	1,370	90	95
Other food products and uses 6/	"	580	1,010	1,138	1,264	1,225	211	97
Total fats and oils	"	6,206	7,205	7,313	8,136	8,012	129	98
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	Mil. lb.	6,870	8,167	8,333	8,836	9,866	144	112
Apples (commercial)	"	4,384	4,110	4,051	3,122	4,196	96	134
Other (excluding melons) 7/	"	4,807	5,342	4,896	3,551	5,048	105	142
Processed:								
Canned fruit 8/	"	1,666	2,332	2,180	1,550	2,194	132	142
Canned juices 9/	"	321	908	859	1,375	1,567	488	114
Frozen 10/	"	106	208	221	221	248	234	112
Dried 11/	"	1,127	924	1,045	1,387	1,151	102	83

Table 3.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-1939	1941	1942	1943	1944	1944 as a percentage of 1935-39	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Vegetables								
Fresh 12/	Mil. lb.	30,498	32,183	34,161	31,554	34,155	112	108
Canned 13/	"	4,084	5,824	6,844	6,235	6,030	148	97
Frozen 14/	"	15/ 78.3	107.2	162.6	232.8	236.6	302	102
Potatoes	Mil. bu.	358.7	364.6	371.5	460.7	380.6	106	83
Sweetpotatoes	"	67.9	62.1	65.5	72.6	73.5	108	101
Dry edible beans 16/	Mil. lb.	1,361	1,705	1,761	1,943	1,574	116	81
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 short tons	1,948	2,090	2,141	1,531	1,600	82	105
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	943	974	836	1,109	146	133
Rye	"	44.9	45.4	57.7	30.8	27.6	61	90
Rice	"	49.8	51.3	64.5	70.0	70.0	141	100
Corn	"	2,316	2,676	3,132	3,076	3,197	138	104
Oats	"	1,045	1,181	1,350	1,144	1,192	114	104
Barley	"	239	362	429	322	290	121	90

[1] Data for 1944 are preliminary. Calendar year basis except for: fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year; canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; and potatoes on the basis of a year beginning July 1. [2] The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total farm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes off-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk fed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately equal volume. [3] Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. [4] Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use. [5] Excluding amount used in manufactured products. [6] Represents fats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products, and other minor uses such as fish canning. [7] Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries, (including noncommercial) cranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums, and prunes (including noncommercial), and strawberries (including noncommercial). [8] Includes apples and applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries, (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, olives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears. [9] Includes grape, grapefruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous, also concentrates. [10] Principally cherries, strawberries, and other berries. [11] Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins. [12] Estimates of all vegetables other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. [13] Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk) peas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables. [14] Includes asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, broccoli, brussels sprout, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots (mixed), spinach, squash, and miscellaneous. [15] Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available. [16] Cleaned basis.

Table 4.- Retail food prices and total cost of living, United States, by months, 1942-44

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruits and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Total cost of living
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	127	122	124	116
Jan.	116	131	122	111	103	119	109	122	118	116	116	112
Feb.	118	119	122	114	104	118	115	125	128	117	117	113
Mar.	120	112	122	117	105	124	121	128	128	120	119	114
Apr.	122	111	122	120	105	126	122	131	128	123	120	115
May	124	115	123	122	105	130	123	131	127	125	122	116
June	127	120	122	120	105	137	122	133	127	125	123	116
July	128	130	123	120	105	139	122	134	127	123	125	117
Aug.	130	146	126	120	105	135	123	139	127	124	126	118
Sept.	131	155	128	121	105	130	124	143	127	124	127	118
Oct.	131	165	131	121	106	139	125	150	127	124	130	119
Nov.	132	166	132	124	106	145	127	150	127	125	131	120
Dec.	133	167	132	125	106	151	128	150	128	124	133	120
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec.	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124
1944												
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Mar.	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	109	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept 1/	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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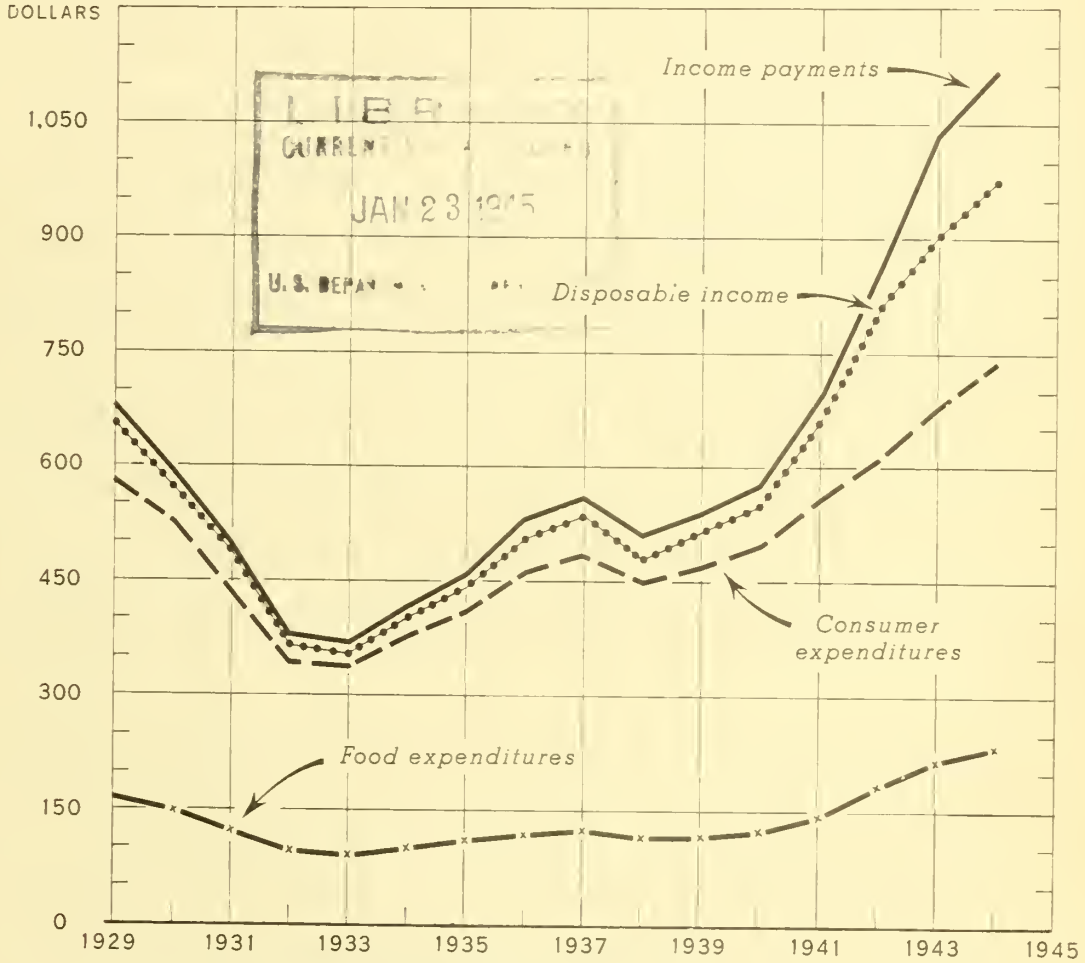
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS-22 BAE NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1944

COMPARISON OF INCOME PAYMENTS, DISPOSABLE INCOME, CONSUMER EXPENDITURES, AND FOOD EXPENDITURES PER PERSON, 1929-44



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U.S. DEPA

DATA FROM BUREAU OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC COMMERCE
ESTIMATES FOR 1943 AND 1944 ARE PRELIMINARY
FOOD EXPENDITURES 1941-44 ADJUSTED FOR ARMED FORCES EATING FROM CIVILIAN SUPPLIES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NEG. 45035 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

The money flow to consumers is represented by income payments. Disposable income allows for the deduction of direct personal taxes and is more important for estimating expenditures in both very prosperous years and depression periods. The spread between disposable income and consumer expenditures in the past three years is due to very large savings of individuals. Food expenditures have almost doubled from the average in 1935-39 and now account for 31 percent of total consumer expenditures as compared with 26 percent in that period. However, consumers spent about 24 percent of their disposable income for food in 1944 just as they did on the average in 1935 - 39.

NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

SUMMARY

When prospective supplies of various foods for the first quarter of 1945 are compared with those available to civilians in the same period of 1944, reductions in the supplies of meat, poultry, butter, evaporated milk, potatoes, fresh vegetables, and perhaps lard will not be entirely compensated for by the expected increases in fluid milk, American cheese, and fruits other than citrus. Citrus supplies will be about the same as last year. In comparison with the pre-war period, it appears that as much meat, lard, and fresh vegetables will be available, but potato and butter supplies, particularly butter, will be below average. Despite these reductions, civilians will not be faced with any over-all food shortage. Supplies of fluid whole milk, non-fat dairy products including cottage cheese, buttermilk, chocolate milk and dry solids, eggs, fish, margarine, cereal products, dry peas, and citrus fruits will make possible a level of food consumption at least as high as the pre-war level, although different in composition.

During 1944 civilians were eating meat at the annual rate of 140 to 145 pounds per capita, 15 to 20 pounds above the 1935-39 average. Total meat supplies in January, February, and March will be smaller than either the first or fourth quarter of 1944 because stocks are low and meat production is expected to be 10 to 12 percent less than in either quarter. Along with smaller total supplies, war requirements will be larger so civilian supplies of meat may not be much above the 1935-39 average. Civilian pork supplies will continue at the rate of the last few months, which is below the very large quantities which have been available in the past 2 years. During the January rationing period a much larger proportion, about 85 percent, of the trimmed retail cuts of meat will have ration point values above zero.

Supplies of eggs are expected to be large enough to permit consumption to continue at record seasonal levels. Poultry supplies will be shorter because of smaller production and large military procurement.

During the first quarter of 1945, civilians probably will receive somewhat greater supplies of fluid milk, American cheese, and non-fat milk solids (dried form, cottage cheese, buttermilk, and chocolate milk) than in the same period of 1944, but significantly smaller supplies of butter, and slightly less evaporated milk. The butter shortage has been accentuated by the 11 percent drop in production from this time last year. Lard production is down considerably from last year's record production because of the big cut in hog slaughter. Civilian supplies will be reduced if exports continue large. In the past, reductions in the civilian supplies of lard have been reflected in increased demands on shortening. Accordingly, although actual supplies of shortening may be about the same as in October-December, they might appear to be less if this shift in demand occurs.

Despite the effects of the Florida hurricane, the citrus fruit crop in 1944-45 is expected to be nearly as large as the huge crop last year and abundant supplies will be available for civilian consumption during the winter. Apple and pear stocks for civilian consumption this winter are much larger than last year.

Fresh vegetable supplies for the next few months may be smaller than last year, but they are expected to be above the pre-war level. However, potatoes may be rather short because the total late crop was about 18 percent smaller than last year's exceptionally large crop, but nearly 4 percent more than the 1933-42 average. In addition, considerably more appears to have been marketed already than is usual by this time. Even though war requirements are about the same as last year, they constitute a larger proportion of the total supply this year.

Home canned vegetables and fruits and winter storage vegetables from last summer's Victory Gardens will be very useful in supplementing commercially processed vegetables and fruits and fresh market supplies this winter.

-------- December 28, 1944

Commodity Reviews

Meats

Total civilian meat supplies during the last three months of 1944 have probably been no smaller than in the previous quarter. However, in relation to seasonally increased demand, supplies have appeared to be smaller. Meat production in the fourth quarter has been materially larger than in either of the two preceding quarters, but moderately smaller than in the fourth quarter of 1943 or in January-March, 1944. Procurement from the total meat supply to meet war requirements has been very heavy these past few months, but takings have not been quite so large as anticipated.

Although the total meat supply for civilians has continued large, there has been and will continue to be much less pork than last year. This results from the materially smaller pork output and very heavy war requirements. In order to meet the war requirements, about 45 to 50 percent of federally inspected pork, under present orders, must be set aside for Government purchase.

Because of heavy war requirements, the probable all-time record in beef production during the October-December 1944 period has resulted in only a moderate increase in the civilian beef supply. Beginning October 15, the War Food Administration required that 80 percent of the canner and cutter beef produced under Federal inspection be set aside for purchase by war agencies. Since early September the set-aside on steer and heifer beef meeting Army weight specifications, grading from Choice to Utility, has been 60 percent. In early December the set-aside on beef was further increased by changing the weight range for acceptable Army beef.

Veal supplies continued very liberal during the last 3 months of 1944 and were probably larger than in the preceding 3-month period. Production during this period appears to have made a new record and this type of meat moved into consumption freely.

Lamb and mutton supplies were seasonally large throughout October-December 1944. But supplies, especially of the better grades and cuts of lamb, fell short of satisfying civilian demand.

On December 1, 1944, stocks of meats and edible offal in commercial warehouses and meat-packing plants, excluding WFA owned stocks, totaled 475 million pounds, the smallest stocks since late 1942. Pork stocks were very low compared with recent years. Strong demand caused an out-movement of beef from storage in September, October, and November contrary to the usual seasonal trend.

During the next three months, a reduction in civilian meat supplies is expected because of a possible 10 percent drop in total meat output from this past quarter. This decrease in production is due to some seasonal reduction in slaughter of animals other than hogs and to a possible decrease from the fourth quarter, 1944 in hog slaughter as the the full force of the reduction in the spring pig crop in 1944 takes effect. Procurement by the WFA and the armed forces may continue at least as large as in the fourth quarter and may even increase.

The reduction in civilian meat supplies will probably apply to all types but will be proportionally greater in lamb and mutton and veal. However, civilian beef supplies will be of better quality as marketings include a larger proportion of grain fed cattle. Lamb and mutton supplies will also be of higher quality as grain fed lambs make up a much larger proportion of total slaughter.

An important recent Government action on civilian meat supplies was the requirement of increased number of markings on graded beef, veal, lamb, and sheep carcasses, so that the grades of the cuts from the carcasses may be more easily indentified. Grades of meat are basic to the operation of meat rationing and price controls. From December 31 to January 26, more meats will require ration points, so that the trimmed retail cuts of meat with point values above zero will represent approximately 85 percent of all such meats to be sold to consumers.

Poultry and Eggs

Civilians have received significantly less poultry in the last quarter of 1944 than in the same period of 1943. Furthermore, supplies for the first quarter of 1945 will be far below those of the year before. These decreases reflect the 20 percent decline in the number of chickens raised in 1944 from the 1943 record, the smaller quantity of broilers raised in the last quarter of 1944, as well as large military procurement.

In order to supply part of the chicken meat requirements for the armed forces, WFA issued WFO 119, effective December 11. This order provides that virtually all poultry produced and processed in the State of Delaware and certain heavy producing sections of Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia shall be set aside for sale to the Quartermaster Corps. The affected areas produce about 40 to 50 percent of the total United States commercial broiler output. Consumers along the Central and North Atlantic Seaboard will be especially affected by this Government action, since most of the broilers produced in the designated areas are sold in that section of the country. For example, in 1943 New York and Philadelphia received about 40 percent and 75 percent by weight, respectively, of their live poultry from the designated areas.

Egg consumption has been at a record rate throughout 1944. Supplies of eggs for civilian consumption during coming months will continue large although production in 1945 is expected to decline from the 1944 peak. Per capita egg consumption in 1945 is likely to be at least as high as the level of 345 to 350 eggs attained in 1944. Civilian demand for eggs has been strong and prices for the various grades have been at ceilings in most areas.

Dairy Products

During the past few months fluid milk supplies have continued larger than in the corresponding period of 1943 and a little more cheese than last year has been available for civilians. Also, civilians have received more non-fat milk solids in the form of cottage cheese, buttermilk, chocolate milk, and non-fat dry milk solids. In contrast, butter supplies have been even shorter than in the last few months of 1943, and evaporated milk supplies have been considerably reduced.

During the first quarter of 1945, civilians probably will have somewhat greater supplies of fluid milk, American cheese, and non-fat milk solids than in the same period of 1944, but significantly smaller supplies of butter. Large military takings will result in slightly smaller supplies of evaporated milk for civilian consumption although production in the first quarter of 1945 may be above that of 1944.

With milk production probably continuing at a record winter rate, supplies of fluid milk and milk byproducts (which are preponderantly nonfat milk solids) will be sufficient to meet requirements in most market areas. Supplies of fluid milk during the past few months apparently have been adequate in most areas except on the Pacific Coast. This is in contrast to the situation which prevailed in the fall of 1942, and 1943, when fluid milk supplies were tight in most large urban areas. Fluid cream supplies probably will remain far short of civilian wants.

Reflecting a fairly stable supply situation in the field of manufactured dairy products, no changes in OPA ration values took place from October until December 26. At that time point values for butter were raised from 20 to 24 red points per pound. On December 31 evaporated milk will be rationed at 1-1/2 points per pound.

Set-aside orders in operation affecting civilian supplies of dairy products for the next few months are those on Cheddar cheese and spray process dry milk solids. For December 1944 and January 1945, manufacturers are required to set aside 25 percent of their Cheddar cheese production, the same as in December, 1943 but below the 30 percent required in January 1944. Since October 1, no set-aside has been imposed on butter manufacturers.

Fats and Oils

Civilian supplies of most edible fats and oils except butter, have been fairly adequate throughout the fall, but they may be somewhat reduced during the next few months. Butter supplies have been very short since summer and no improvement is expected. The shortage has been intensified by the decrease in production of about 11 percent in the fourth quarter of 1944 from the corresponding quarter of 1943. No set aside for Government purchase has been in effect since October 1.

Reflecting the scarcity of butter, consumption of margarine, as measured by tax-paid withdrawals from manufacturers' stocks, increased in October to 56 million pounds compared with 49 million pounds in September and almost the same as a year earlier. A high level of margarine consumption is likely to continue through January or February, although the total in the first quarter of 1945 may not be quite as large as the 163 million pound record in January-March 1943, when distributors' stocks were being accumulated.

Civilian lard supplies are smaller than in the winter of 1943-44 because of the materially lower level of lard production. The purchase of lard for use in civilian soap was again prohibited on November 13. A similar prohibition had been in effect from January 1 to July 10, 1943. If exports of lard continue at a high rate, civilian supplies will be reduced. In the past, reductions in the civilian supplies of lard have been reflected in increased demands on shortening supplies. Accordingly, many areas have experienced some scarcities of shortening. Utilization of fats and oils in the manufacture of civilian margarine, shortening, and cooking and salad oils is controlled by means of quotas on the total quantity of fats and oils so used. Throughout 1944 the maximum usage allowed each manufacturer of margarine has been 107 percent of his average use in 1940 and 1941. The quotas for shortening and cooking and salad oils have been 88 percent of the same base-period use.

Fruit

Supplies of fresh fruit in the next three months, as well as in the 1944-45 season as a whole, will be large because of the record total fruit production. During the winter the largest part of the fresh fruit will be citrus. Supplies of lemons in the first quarter of 1945 are expected to be about the same as or slightly larger than in the first quarter of 1944, those of oranges about the same, and those of grapefruit slightly smaller. Among the deciduous fruits, supplies of apples and pears, taken from storage stocks, will be much larger than a year earlier, and those of grapes slightly smaller.

The October-December period of each year is a transition period, as far as fruit supplies are concerned, from emphasis on deciduous fruits to emphasis on citrus fruits. Although prospective production of citrus fruit this season has been reduced considerably by the October hurricane in Florida, the 1944-45 crop is expected to be nearly as large as the record large 1943-44 crop. The orange crop is expected to be as large as the record crop last season and one-half again as large as the 10-year (1933-42) average. The lemon crop is indicated to be about one-fifth larger than the near-average crop last season. The grapefruit crop probably will be about one-eight smaller this season than last but still almost 50 percent above the 10-year average.

On the other hand, despite the record total production of fruit and the larger quantity expected to be processed this season than last, civilians will receive less commercially canned fruits, fruit juices, and dried fruits. Frozen fruit supplies probably will be larger. Prospective civilian per capita supplies of commercially canned fruits are about 10 to 12 percent smaller than last season and about 40 percent smaller than the 5-year (1935-39) average. This decrease will be offset to some extent by home-canned fruits. Furthermore, although the 1944-45 civilian supply of canned fruit juices is now expected to be slightly smaller than the supply of the preceding season, it still is nearly twice the 5-year average.

Vegetables

Civilian supplies of fresh vegetables and sweet potatoes during the last quarter of 1944 have been somewhat above those of the same quarter in 1943, but supplies of potatoes have been smaller despite increased imports. Total rail and boat carlot shipments to market of fresh vegetables other than potatoes during the fourth quarter of 1944, have been moderately larger than during the corresponding period a year ago. Carlot shipments of sweetpotatoes have been about one-sixth greater in number than during the same period last year, but potato shipments have been fewer.

Civilian supplies of vegetables in the first quarter of 1945 will consist mostly of cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, lettuce and romaine, onions, spinach, tomatoes, potatoes, and sweetpotatoes. It is expected that fresh vegetable supplies generally will be somewhat smaller in this quarter than during the corresponding first quarter of 1944. Estimates to date of prospective 1945 commercial production of thirteen winter-season truck crops indicate a reduction from 1944 of 16 percent in total tonnage. Indicated increases for lima beans, carrots, green peas, and shallots, are more than offset by decreases for artichokes, beets, cabbage, celery, escarole, kale, lettuce, and spinach.

The 1944 total late crop of potatoes was about 18 percent below the exceptionally large 1943 crop, but nearly 4 percent above the 1933-42 average. A considerably larger proportion (although a smaller quantity) of the total 1944 crop has already moved to market than normally would move by this time, leaving the possibility of short supplies until new potatoes come in.

Supplies of most canned vegetables except tomatoes and tomato products appear to have been sufficient to meet unrationed civilian demand in most areas during the fall. In order to apportion available supplies over the rest of the pack year and to distribute them more equitably, canned peas, asparagus, spinach, green and wax beans, and corn were assigned ration point values above zero on December 26. Although this year's pack was one of the largest on record, civilian per capita supplies for the whole pack year will not exceed the 36 pound average of 1943-44 and might be somewhat smaller. Noncivilian requirements from the 1944 pack appear to be larger than actual takings from the 1943 pack and commercial stocks on hand at the beginning of the 1944-45 pack year were slightly below the year before.

Wheat, Rye, and Rice

Much the same quantities of wheat, rye and rice will be used for food this year (1944-45) as usual. December crop estimates indicate slightly smaller crops of wheat (1,079 million bushels) and rye than previously expected and slightly more rice. Because of this year's bumper corn crop, much less wheat will be used for feed and alcohol so that it is now estimated that the carry-over next July may be 100 million bushels above the liberal carry-over last July. With the winter crop showing excellent prospects, ample wheat supplies are assured for the 1945-46 year.

Although this year's rye crop was the smallest since 1887, with the exception of the drought years of the 30's, there will still be enough rye to meet all food needs and to leave quantities available for the manufacture of alcohol and for export. This results from large carry-in stocks and sharply reduced feeding requirements.

About average civilian consumption of rice as food is expected from the record 1944 rice crop (40 percent above the 1933-42 average). Large quantities have already been milled and moved into civilian distribution channels. Therefore, heavy procurement for war use in the next few months probably will not affect consumer supplies very much. The large rice crops of the past 2 years have permitted us to supply countries which previously had obtained rice from Asia. Since it is expected that the United States will have to supply increasing quantities for occupied areas where rice is a major part of the diet, the carry-over at the end of the 1944-45 marketing year may be very small.

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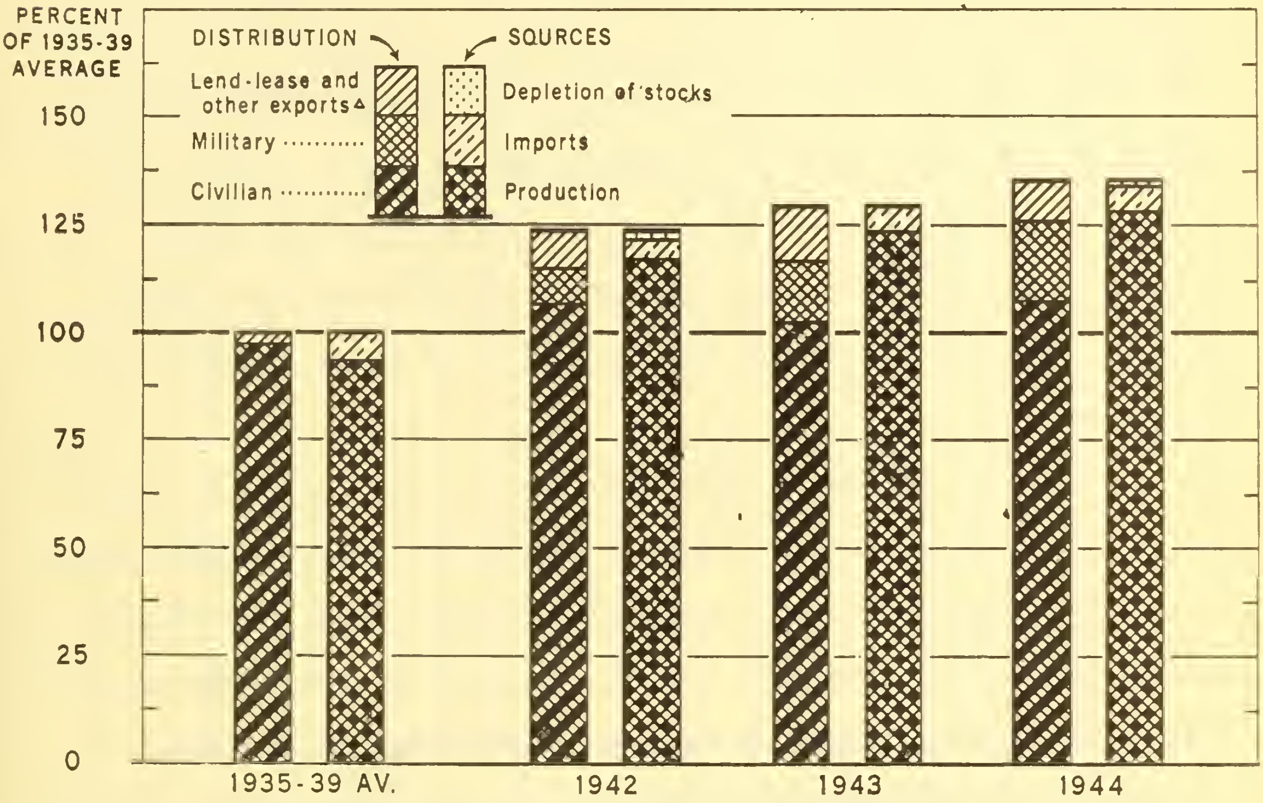
THE National Food SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NFS - 23 BAE JANUARY 1945

TOTAL UNITED STATES FOOD DISAPPEARANCE: DISTRIBUTION AND SOURCES, 1935-39 AVERAGE, 1942, 1943, AND 1944*



*1944 DATA ARE PRELIMINARY △ INCLUDES NET PURCHASES BY W. F. A.

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The total disappearance of food produced in or imported into the United States was 35 percent higher in 1944 than in 1935-39. Although nearly all this increase in disappearance was made possible by larger production, a small part of it came from a marked depletion of commercial stocks. These stocks, which had become quite large by the end of 1941 were reduced last year below the 1935-39 average. The reduction in stocks more than offset the decrease in food imports from 1935-39 to 1944. About 21 percent of the 1944 food disappearance consisted of takings by the armed forces, lend-lease, exports and shipments (2/3 of that quantity went to the armed forces and 1/3 to other noncivilian food uses). The remaining 79 percent was taken by civilians.

NATIONAL FOOD SITUATION

SUMMARY

Civilian food consumption in 1944 is now estimated to have been 9 percent above the pre-war years, 1935-39. This would be a record. Food production has been increased 37 percent to meet large war requirements and at the same time to provide for the increase in civilian consumption. About 21 percent of the total quantity of food which was utilized went into non-civilian channels, in 1944, of this 2/3 went to the military and 1/3 to lend-lease, exports, and shipments. Food supplies in prospect for civilian consumption in 1945 are somewhat smaller than the record 1944 quantities, but close to and not much under the civilian per capita consumption rate of 1943, which was about 6 percent above the 1935-39 average. However, supplies of some foods will, of course, be under this average level.

Fruits and vegetables produced in town and city gardens are not included in these estimates of civilian consumption. These gardens have contributed considerable quantities during the war, and in view of the current food outlook, they will again be important in 1945. Even if Victory Garden production is as large as in 1943 and 1944, the total supply of food available for civilians from commercial and home production in 1945 would provide for a little lower level of nutrition than the peak year 1944. However, the 1945 nutrition level would still be considerably higher than in the pre-war period (1935-39).

During 1945, supplies of all meats, chicken, butter, lard, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, dry beans, some fresh vegetables, deciduous fruits, and sugar probably will be reduced from the 1944 levels. Some increase in civilian supplies of evaporated milk, milk by-products, and margarine is likely, and egg consumption may be raised slightly.

Over-all food supplies in 1945, will still be above the 1935-39 level, but supplies of some of the most popular foods will continue smaller than average consumption in those years on a per capita basis. Among these are butter, cheese, condensed and evaporated milk, lamb and mutton, potatoes and sweetpotatoes, and dry beans. Although there will be considerably less pork than last year, pork, beef and veal supplies will be a little larger than in 1935-39. Even with these reductions, total food supplies for civilians will remain fairly large because of increases since before the war in the supplies of fluid milk, eggs, citrus, canned fruit juices, peanuts, margarine, ice cream and milk by-products such as cottage cheese, chocolate milk, and dried skim milk.

Civilian meat supplies in 1945 are estimated at 128 to 133 pounds per capita, a little above the 1935-39 average but 15 to 20 pounds below the estimated 147 pounds consumed per capita in 1944. most of the reduction will be in pork because of the expected 20 percent decrease in pork output although supplies of other meats may be slightly below last year. Chicken supplies for civilians are likely to be smaller than in 1944 because of much larger military takings. Turkey supplies probably will be maintained at the same level as in 1943 and 1944. Supplies of eggs are expected to continue plentiful. Egg consumption may be 5 to 10 eggs above the previous record consumption of 349 eggs per capita in 1944, because of high consumer incomes and the decrease in civilian meat supplies.

The total supply of milk in all dairy products available for civilians in 1945 may be slightly smaller than in 1944 but about the same as in 1943. Fluid and condensed milk, cheese and ice cream supplies are expected to remain about the same as in 1944, but evaporated milk supplies may be a pound larger per capita. Under anticipated supply conditions, butter consumption may not be more than 10.5 pounds, compared with 11.8 in 1944 and the average of 16.7 pounds in 1935-39. Lard supplies for civilians might decrease from 14.3 pounds in 1944 to about 12.5 pounds per capita, if exports continue at the high

1944 level. Margarine consumption may be somewhat larger in 1945 than in 1944. Supplies of shortening and other edible fats and oils probably will be about the same as last year although greater demand for them is expected because of smaller lard supplies.

Market supplies of all fruits and vegetables for civilians may be a little less in 1945 than in 1944. The total 1944 deciduous fruit crop was fairly large, and the crop in 1945 may be slightly smaller. Citrus supplies will be about as large as in 1944 and the canned fruit and fruit juice supply situation may not be materially different. Fresh vegetable supplies from commercial and farm sources during the first few months may be somewhat below the level of the corresponding months of 1944 although for the year as a whole they may be slightly above the 1935-39 average. Therefore, the production of town and city gardens will again be important in supplementing market supplies. The larger than usual movement of civilian supplies of the new pack of canned vegetables and the late 1944 crop of potatoes before January 1 indicate reduced supplies available for consumption before 1945-46 supplies become available. We may expect war requirements for canned vegetables to continue large so civilian supplies probably will not increase very much, if at all.

Civilian supplies of cereal products have been adequate throughout the war to meet increased demands, with the exception of rice in some areas. Unusually large crops of the major grains and good stocks have met all food demands and left large quantities for non-food use. Supplies for civilians in 1945 will continue large. Reduced supplies of some of the most popular foods may be reflected in some increases in demand for cereal products, but no shortages are expected. If rice exports to fill urgent foreign needs are quite large, civilian supplies may be no larger than average consumption in 1935-39.

Sugar supplies for civilian consumption in 1945 are expected to be somewhat smaller than the rate of 88 pounds per capita consumed in 1944 because no further withdrawals from stocks appear to be possible. Civilian supplies of coffee, tea, and cocoa beans probably will be about the same in 1945 as in 1944.

Table 1.- Volume of agricultural production for sale and for farm home consumption, and civilian per capita food consumption, 1941-44, with percentage comparisons

(Index numbers, 1935-39 = 100)

Item	1941	1942	1943	1944 1/	1944 as a percentage of 1943
Food grains 2/	131	139	114	149	131
Truck crops 3/	116	129	121	145	120
Fruits and nuts 4/	113	117	106	121	114
Vegetables, excluding truck crops 5/	100	104	128	105	82
Sugar crops 6/	97	110	80	82	102
Total food crops 7/	116	124	116	129	111
Meat animals 8/	118	132	150	152	101
Poultry 9/	116	131	152	151	99
Dairy products 10/	110	114	113	114	101
Total food livestock	115	126	138	139	101
Total food production	115	125	132	137	104
Total agricultural production	113	124	129	133	103
Civilian per capita food consumption	108	107	106	109	103

1/ Production indexes are based on the December crop report and estimated marketings and home consumption of livestock and livestock products for the calendar year 1944.

2/ Includes wheat, rye, rice, and buckwheat.

3/ Includes truck crops for market (artichokes, asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, cantaloups, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, onions, peas, peppers, spinach, tomatoes, and watermelons) and truck crops for manufacture (asparagus, lima beans, snap beans, beets, cabbage, sweet corn, cucumbers, peas, spinach, and tomatoes).

4/ Includes apples, peaches, pears, cherries, apricots, grapes, strawberries, cranberries, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, olives, dried California figs, fresh and dried plums, almonds, pecans, and walnuts.

5/ Includes dry edible beans, potatoes, sweetpotatoes.

6/ Includes sugar beets, sugarcane for sugar, sugarcane sirup, sorgo sirup, maple sugar, and maple sirup.

7/ Includes peanuts in addition to the other crops.

8/ Includes cattle and calves, sheep and lambs, and hogs.

9/ Includes eggs, chickens, turkeys, and broilers.

10/ Includes wholesale milk, retail milk, butterfat, farm butter, and farm consumption of dairy products.

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1942, 1943, 1944 and preliminary indications for 1945, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Average 1935-1939	1942	1943	1944	Prelimi-nary indica-tion for 1945	1945 as a p centage of	
						1935-39	1944
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Perc
Meats (dressed weight)							
Beef	54.8	61.2	49.8	53.0	52	95	98
Veal	8.0	8.0	7.9	12.0	11	138	92
Lamb and mutton	6.7	7.2	6.3	6.2	6	90	97
Pork (excluding lard)	56.1	61.5	72.6	75.8	63	112	83
Total meats	125.6	137.9	136.6	147.0	132	105	90
Poultry Products							
Eggs 2/	37.3	38.9	42.9	43.6	44.8	120	103
Chicken (dressed weight)	17.9	21.5	28.1	23.0	20.5	115	89
Turkey (dressed weight)	2.6	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.3	127	106
Dairy Products							
Total milk	801	840	765	789	770	96	98
Cheese	5.5	6.3	5.0	4.7	4.8	87	102
Cond. and evap. milk	16.7	18.3	18.6	15.5	16.3	98	105
Fluid milk and cream	340	372	404	421	425	125	101
Fats and Oils							
Butter, farm and factory	16.7	15.6	11.8	11.8	10.5	63	89
Lard	11.0	13.6	14.5	14.3	12.5	114	87
Margarine (fat content)	2.3	2.2	3.2	3.2	3.5	152	109
Shortening (fat content)	11.7	8.9	9.6	9.3	9.6	82	103
Other edible fats and oils (fat content)	6.3	8.1	6.4	6.2	5.8	92	94
Total fats and oils	48.0	48.4	45.5	44.8	41.9	87	94
Fruits							
Fresh							
Citrus	48.8	57.0	59.7	67.0	63.4	130	95
Apples (commercial)	30.2	26.7	25.2	25.9	79	88	99
Other (excluding melons)	59.2	46.1	35.9	54.0			
Total fresh	138.2	129.8	120.8	146.9	142.4	103	97
Processed							
Canned fruit	14.9	14.9	10.0	9.9	3/	---	---
Canned juices	4.1	6.8	6.0	9.0	3/	---	---
Frozen	4/ .7	1.6	1.4	1.5	3/	---	---
Dried	5.6	4.5	6.2	5.2	3/	---	---

- Continued

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1942, 1943, 1944 and preliminary indications for 1945, with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Average 1935-1939	1942	1943	1944	Preliminary indication for 1945	1945 as a percentage of	
						1935-39	1944
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent	Percent
Vegetables							
Fresh	235.3	250.7	236.2	249.7	238.0	101	95
Canned	31.1	38.7	35.5	32.5	3/	---	---
Frozen	.4	1.0	.7	1.7	3/	---	---
Potatoes	130	124	132	112	3/	---	---
Sweetpotatoes	23.3	19.6	23.0	21.7	3/	---	---
Beans, dry edible	8.8	9.1	8.8	8.0	3/	---	---
Sugar (refined)	96.5	86.2	80.3	88.4	78.0	81	88
Grains							
Corn products:							
Corn meal	23.9	21.8	22.6	22.6	22.6	95	100
Corn sirup	7.7	14.3	10.5	10.1	12.0	156	119
Corn starch	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5	115	100
Corn sugar	3.2	5.5	4.6	4.4	4.5	141	102
Breakfast food	1.7	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	153	100
Hominy	1.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.7	142	94
Oats:							
Oatmeal	3.9	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.7	121	100
Barley:							
Barley food products 5/	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	117	93
Wheat:							
Flour 6/	154.0	157.7	159.2	160.2	160.2	104	100
Breakfast food	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	103	100
Rye:							
Rye flour	2.4	2.7	3.3	2.8	2.5	104	89
Rice milled	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.7	100	98
Beverages							
Coffee 7/	14.0	13.4	13.1	16.0	16.2	116	101
Tea	.7	.5	.5	.5	.7	100	140
Cocoa beans	4.4	3.8	2.9	3.4	3.5	80	103
Peanuts (shelled)	4.7	6.9	6.3	6.2	6.5	138	105

-Continued

Table 2.- Apparent civilian consumption of major food commodities on a per capita basis, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1942, 1943, 1944, and preliminary indications for 1945, with percentage comparisons 1/ - Continued

Population estimates used to obtain per capita consumption figures are official census estimates of total population adjusted for under-enumeration of children under 5 less 85 percent of military personnel. It is assumed that approximately 15 percent of the military personnel consume food obtained through civilian distribution channels.

1/ Data for 1944 are preliminary and those for 1945 indications. Calendar year basis except for canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack year basis; potatoes and sweetpotatoes which are on the basis of a year beginning July 1; fresh citrus fruits, peanuts and dry edible beans on a crop-year basis, rice on an August 1 year. All years begin in the year designated except for fresh citrus, which begins in October of the previous year and rice which begins in August of previous year. For more detailed explanation see footnotes Table 4.

2/ In terms of number of eggs the apparent per capita consumption was 298 in 1935-39, 311 in 1942, 343 in 1943, and 349 in 1944, and 358 in 1945.

3/ Not available until April.

4/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not available.

5/ All barley food products in terms of malt equivalent.

6/ Includes white, whole wheat, and Semolina flour.

7/ Green bean basis.

Table 3.- Civilian and noncivilian total disappearance of major foods, 1942, 1943, 1944 1/

	Unit	1942			1943			1944		
		Non-civilian total			Non-civilian total			Non-civilian total		
		Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total	Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total	Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total
Meats (dr. wt.)										
Beef	Mil. lb.	960	942	8,104	2,260	2,225	6,456	2,338	2,373	6,847
Veal	"	87	86	1,054	125	122	1,017	148	148	1,546
Lamb & mutton	"	85	84	948	277	266	820	197	197	806
Pork (excl. lard)	"	2,556	2,575	8,139	3,377	3,574	9,411	3,401	3,664	9,765
Total meats	"	3,688	3,685	18,245	6,639	6,187	17,704	6,087	6,382	18,962
Poultry Products										
Eggs	Mil. doz.	854	647	3,432	1,041	1,051	3,704	1,344	1,188	3,760
Chicken (dr. wt.)	Mil. lb.	159	159	2,844	149	149	3,636	408	408	2,975
Turkey (dr. wt.)	"	23	23	488	47	47	421	92	92	402
Dairy Products										
Total milk 2/	"	11,782	10,032	110,952	18,657	16,027	99,054	17,178	20,832	102,034
Cheese 3/	"	367	367	837	405	283	653	398	508	613
Cond. & evap. milk	"	1,684	872	2,424	834	1,346	2,415	1,716	1,830	2,005
Fl. milk & cream 4/	"	441	441	49,191	1,529	1,529	52,189	1,624	1,624	54,729
Fats and Oils										
Butter 5/	"	172	172	2,067	481	358	1,525	285	401	1,530
Lard 6/	"	707	697	1,797	977	851	1,881	1,204	1,007	1,847
Margarine 7/	"	52	32	297	88	88	412	82	82	408
Shortening	"	139	139	1,172	198	178	1,240	156	166	1,200
Other edible	"	208	178	1,070	495	510	829	486	471	800
Total	"	1,278	1,218	6,403	2,239	1,985	5,887	2,213	2,127	5,785

- Continued

Table 3.- Civilian and noncivilian total disappearance of major foods, 1942, 1943, 1944 1/
- Continued

		1942			1943			1944		
		Non-civilian total			Non-civilian total			Non-civilian total		
	Unit	Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total	Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total	Military exports, and net WFA purchases	Military exports, and Lend-Lease shipments	Civilian total
Fruits										
Citrus (fresh)	Mil. lb	798	798	7,542	1,100	1,100	7,744	1,391	1,391	8,668
Apples (com'l)	"	313	313	3,528	344	344	3,261	430	430	3,351
Other fresh	"	219	219	6,099	222	222	4,655	247	247	6,979
Canned 9/	"	1,039	948	1,946	895	957	2,295	8/	8/	8/
Canned fruit juices 10/	"	333	333	902	670	604	774	714	712	1,158
Frozen	"	6	6	208	8	8	178	10	10	192
Dried 11/	"	622	483	610	482	549	823	8/	8/	8/
Vegetables										
Fresh 12/	"	1,097	1,097	33,164	1,591	1,591	33,620	1,857	1,857	32,288
Canned 13/	"	2,186	1,877	5,053	1,670	1,824	4,592	8/	8/	8/
Frozen 14/	"	15	15	137	50	50	94	65	65	216
Potatoes	Mil. bu	37	37	257	56	56	286	8/	8/	8/
Sweetpotatoes	"	2	2	47	3	3	54	8/	8/	8/
Dry edible beans 15/	Mil. lb	827	582	1,188	797	705	1,135	8/	8/	8/
Sugar, raw	1,000 Short tons	663	663	6,102	1,226	1,226	5,569	1,308	1,308	6,117
Grains										
Wheat	Mil. bu	47	46	490	97	95	484	118	109	486
Rye	"	---	---	9	---	---	11	---	---	9
Rice	"	26	26	26	30	26	26	29	29	25
Beverages										
Coffee	Mil. lb	283	283	1,777	336	336	1,692	446	446	2,068
Tea	"	6	6	70	18	18	60	12	12	70
Cocoa beans	"	91	91	503	172	172	372	234	234	444
Peanuts 16/	"	130	130	893	202	202	813	8/	8/	8/

Table 3.- Civilian and noncivilian total disappearance of major foods, 1942, 1943, 1944 1/
- Continued

1/ These total disappearance data are all preliminary. They include food from all sources -- domestic production, stocks, and imports. The non-civilian totals including net WFA purchases were used for the cover chart. The difference between the two non-civilian totals for each year is in the handling of War Food Administration stocks, the first column measures Lend-Lease takings at the time they were purchases out of the total available supply; the second column "including Lend-Lease shipments" measures them when they were shipped. Quantities taken for the military and commercial exports and shipments are the same in both columns. By the first method, purchases for stocks of the War Food Administration are included in Lend-Lease takings; by the second method, stocks not actually shipped out under Lend-Lease are excluded from the non-civilian total. Calendar year basis except for fresh citrus fruit for which the season begins in the fall of the previous year, canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are on a pack-year basis; potatoes and sweetpotatoes on the basis of a year beginning July 1; dry edible beans and peanuts - September crop year; rice - beginning in August of the previous year. All years begin in year designated except fresh citrus and rice.
2/ Milk equivalent of all dairy products including butter, on a fat solid basis.
3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and baker's cheese.
4/ Fluid milk equivalent for fresh use.
5/ Farm and factory production included. Actual weight basis.
6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products.
7/ Fat content.
8/ Cannot be released for security reasons.
9/ Includes apples, applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries, (including brined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, olives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears.
10/ Includes grape, grapefruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous, also concentrates.
11/ Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs, peaches, pears, prunes, and raisins.
12/ Estimates of all vegetables other than potatoes and sweetpotatoes include consumption from reported commercial production for fresh market shipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale and farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production.
13/ Includes asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap) beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk), pimientos, potatoes and sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and squash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and chili sauce, mixed vegetables, vegetable juices.
14/ Includes asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, broccoli, brussels sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots, (mixed), spinach, squash, and miscellaneous.
15/ Cleaned basis.
16/ Shelled.
17/ Green beans.

NUTRITIVE VALUE OF THE 1944 AND 1945 CIVILIAN FOOD SUPPLIES [1]

Nutrition levels in 1944 as measured by the quantities of dietary essentials in the over-all food supply appear to be higher for most nutrients than for any year on record. The number of calories was probably below the number available in 1941, a peak year for calories, but 5 percent above the 1935-39 average. Quantities of minerals and vitamins available in the 1944 food supply were above the averages for any previous year. The amounts of protein, two minerals, and vitamin A available for civilians were 15 to 30 percent higher than in 1935-39 while vitamin C and the B-vitamins increased 30 to 50 percent. Some of this improvement can be traced to the enrichment of flour and bread with iron and three of the B-vitamins, but much of it is due to the increased consumption of milk, eggs, meat, vegetables, and fruit.

Nutrition levels in 1945 may be a little lower than in 1944, but will still be considerably higher than in the pre-war period (1935-39). When the quantities of food expected to be available to civilians in 1945 are translated into terms of nutritive value, the number of calories appears to be down about 4 percent from 1944 because supplies of sugar and of fats and fatty meats are expected to be much less plentiful this year than in 1944. Two of the B-vitamins (thiamine and niacin) may also be down as much as 5 percent, largely on account of the smaller pork supplies in 1945. Calcium and another B-vitamin, riboflavin, however, will be about the same as in 1944 chiefly because civilian supplies of milk and milk products are expected to be about the same as in 1944. If produce from Victory Gardens is as large in 1945 as in 1944, vitamins A and C may not fall very short of the high levels of 1944.

COMMODITY REVIEWS

MEATS

Summary of 1944

Meat consumption by civilians in 1944 is now estimated at about 147 pounds per capita, a high rate unequalled since 1924 and 1925. Such a civilian consumption in the war year 1944 would be about 21 pounds above the 1935-39 average of 126 pounds (dressed weight). More veal was consumed per person than in any previous year on record, and per capita consumption of pork was the highest since 1908. Lamb, mutton and beef consumption per civilian was only slightly below the pre-war average. With record consumer incomes, the very large quantities of meat available were taken at near-ceiling prices. Net consumer incomes averaged $1,166 per person compared with $504 before the war (1935-39). The BLS index of retail meat prices in 1944 averaged about 30 percent above 1935-39. Pork production was only 4 or 5 percent below the all time record made in 1943, and a new record of beef and veal production was established. Furthermore, stocks of meat held by the War Food Administration and commercial cold storage stocks were reduced more than 40 percent during the year. Cold storage stocks on January 1, 1945, totaled 547 million pounds, including offals, compared with 912 million on January 1, 1944.

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[1] Nutritive analysis prepared by Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics. All data were analyzed on a per capita basis.

Based on preliminary estimates, 19 billion pounds of meat from current production and stocks were supplied to domestic civilian consumers, and 6 billion pounds of meat were taken from current production plus several hundred million pounds from WFA stocks to fill was requirements (lend-lease, military and small amount for commercial export and shipments) (See table 3). The non-civilian takings out of current production were 600 million pounds less than the quantities procured in 1943. Most of this reduction was in pork so civilians had plentiful supplies of pork until the last part of the year when pork production was reduced as the result of the much smaller pig crop in the spring of 1944.

All meats except beef roasts and steaks were off the ration during May and June. (i.e. point values were at zero) because of the large volume of meat produced and the lack of adequate storage facilities. Point values were raised on the better grades and cuts of lamb in July and on the more popular pork cuts in mid-August. Beef supplies for civilian use increased slightly in the last 6 months, but were still below demand at ceiling prices.

Prospects for 1945

Civilian supplies of meat during the coming year will be considerably reduced from the very high level reached in 1944, and per capita consumption may be between 128 and 133 pounds. 1/ This would still be slightly above the 1935-39 average of 126 pounds. Non-civilian allocations for 1945 are as large as last year's takings from production and stocks. Government stocks (not including military) are quite low and commercial stocks are lower than they have been on January 1 since 1939. Meat production in 1945 is now forecasted at 22.4 billion pounds compared with 1944 production of 24.7 billion. Most of the decrease will be in pork output because of the smaller pig crops in 1944 and indicated further reduction in the pig crop this coming spring.

Although most of the reduction in civilian meat supplies will be in pork, supplies of other types may be slightly below last year. The meat supply situation will be particularly tight when compared with 1944 consumption and with full civilian demand which would probably be about 160 pounds per capita at ceiling prices. However, civilian supplies will be larger when slaughter increases seasonally in the late fall of 1945. Little if any change in the quality of civilian meat supplies is expected. Most supplies in 1945 are apt to be less evenly distributed among areas than in 1944. Areas depending largely upon supplies from inspected slaughter will have their civilian supplies reduced much more than rural non-farm areas. Farm consumption will still remain high.

POULTRY AND EGGS

Summary of 1944

Revised estimates of civilian egg consumption indicate a new record of about 349 eggs per capita, 6 above the previous record established in 1943. This rate was 17 percent above the 1935-39 average. Farm and non-farm production of about 5,270 million dozen eggs was a new record. Consumer incomes were very high, so consumers took the increased quantities at retail prices which averaged a little below those of the corresponding months of 1943 throughout the year. In the latter part of the year, reduced meat and chicken supplies were reflected in heavier demand for eggs so that eggs sold at ceiling prices in most areas.

1/ Allowance has been made for increases in the set aside for Government purchase

Chicken consumption by civilians in 1944 averaged about 23 pounds per capita. Compared with pre-war consumption, this was a high rate, but it was well below the 28 pound record consumption in 1943. Chicken meat production was about 500 million pounds less in 1944 and military requirements were much larger. The drop in production was due to a 20 percent decrease in chickens raised and a small reduction in broiler production.

Although turkey production increased 8 percent in 1944 over 1943, the previous record, turkey consumption was about the same in 1944 as in 1943. Non-civilian requirements totaled about 92 million pounds in 1944 compared with some 47 million pounds in 1943.

Prospects for 1945

Relatively large egg consumption may be expected to continue in 1945. Although production of eggs may decrease 8 to 10 percent, civilian supplies will still be plentiful because of large stocks available to meet somewhat reduced non-civilian needs. Continued high consumer incomes and the considerably decreased civilian meat supply may bring egg consumption up to 355 to 360 eggs per capita.

Chicken supplies for civilian consumption are estimated at about 20-1/2 pounds per capita in 1945, 2-1/2 pounds smaller than they were this past year, principally because of anticipated large increases in military requirements for chicken. During the first part of the year, there will be very little chicken for civilians in the large Eastern metropolitan centers because of WFO 119 which virtually prohibits the sale of chicken to anyone but the armed forces in the major broiler producing areas, and because of the prospective large increase in the production of canned chicken for the armed forces.

Turkey supplies for civilians are estimated at about the same as in the past 2 years, 3 to 3-1/4 pounds per capita, if military requirements do not increase much over last year.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Summary of 1944

Civilian consumption of all dairy products was slightly above that in 1943, amounting to 789 pounds per capita of whole milk equivalent (fat solids basis). This war-time rate was about 2 percent below the corresponding rate in 1935-39 when the individual consumer's takings of butter, cheese, fluid milk and cream, etc. were limited only by his ability to pay for it. Milk production in 1944 was 14 percent above the 1935-39 average and about a billion pounds (1 percent) above 1943. In aggregate terms, civilians consumed about 102.0 billion pounds of milk and at the same time 17.2 billion pounds from current supplies were taken to fill war requirements. Although non-civilian takings from production in 1944 decreased 8 percent from the 1943 rate, actual deliveries to military, lend-lease, and exports increased about 30 percent. The 15 billion pound increase from 1943 to 1944 in total non-civilian and civilian disappearance or consumption was due to depletion of commercial stocks of butter, cheese, and evaporated milk.

Fluid milk and cream consumption was higher than anticipated, reaching the record rate of 421 pounds (196 quarts) per capita, compared with 404 pounds (188 quarts) in 1943, and 340 pounds (158 quarts) per year in 1935-39, whole milk equivalent. The 24 percent increase in fluid milk and cream consumption since the pre-war period was due to the consumption of a larger proportion of the total civilian milk supply in the fluid form in 1944 -- 54 percent in 1944, compared with 42 percent in the earlier period. The demand for fluid milk and cream increases noticeably as incomes go up and has been particularly strong in the last 2 years. Since October 1943, sales of fluid milk and cream have been restricted at the distributors' level in most of the major market areas by WFO 79. Milk sold for fresh consumption has generally yielded greater returns to producers than that sold to processors so the demand for fluid milk has usually been filled first, and the residual has been processed.

The consumption of all whole milk, cheese and evaporated milk in 1944 was less than the year before, with 4.7 pounds of cheese and 13.7 pounds of evaporated milk, compared with 5 pounds of cheese in 1943 and 16.6 pounds of evaporated milk. Butter and condensed milk consumption per capita remained practically unchanged, at 11.8 and 1.8 pounds, respectively. Although almost 40 percent of the cheese went to the armed forces and lend-lease, civilian cheese supplies were maintained at 85 percent of the 1935-39 level because of a 50 percent increase in production. Civilian supplies of condensed and evaporated milk were reduced about 1 pound per capita since the period before the war (1935-39) despite the 2/3 increase in production, because about half of the available 1944 supply went to fill non-civilian needs.

The supply of ice cream for civilian consumption was much below demand because of Government controls designed to use as much of the milk supply as possible for products urgently needed to meet war requirements. Very little dried whole milk has been available to civilians, less than half a pound per capita. Supplies of non-fat milk products such as cottage cheese, buttermilk, chocolate milk, and dried skim milk were somewhat short of demand in some areas during part of the year, but in the last few months the situation has improved and some government restrictions on sale and use have been relaxed.

Prospects for 1945

Civilian supplies of all dairy products on a milk equivalent basis, will not be greatly different in 1945 than in 1943 but slightly smaller than the quantity consumed this past year. Most of the reduction will be in butter with per capita supplies expected to be about 10.5 pounds, 1-1/3 pounds below 1943 and 1944 and about 6 pounds less than the pre-war average of 16.7. Civilian butter stocks are very low and some decrease in production is expected. Supplies of fluid milk and cream, cheese, condensed milk and ice cream may be about the same as in 1944. Civilians may get more evaporated milk, perhaps about 1 pound above the rate of 13.7 pounds in 1944, because of a possible increase in production and some reduction in non-civilian requirements. Supplies of milk by-products such as cottage cheese, dried skim, buttermilk, and chocolate milk may increase somewhat.

FATS AND OILS

Summary for 1944

Supplies of fats and oils for civilian food consumption in 1944 were relatively plentiful until fall except for butter which remained considerably below the pre-war consumption level throughout the year. The consumption of all food fats and oils, as measured at the factory level, was approximately 44.8 pounds per capita, about a pound less than in 1943, and several pounds below the 1935-39 level of 48 pounds. However, the consumption of fats and oils other than butter was actually about a pound and a half larger in 1944 than during 1935-39. Although, there was no rationing of these fats during 1944, less of these fats and oils disappeared into civilian distribution channels than during 1943 when rationing was in effect for most of the year. There were no major retail shortages in 1944 until the last quarter, when the movement of food fats and oils into civilian trade channels was very heavy.

Butter consumption was about 11.8 pounds per capita, the same as in 1943, but about 5 pounds below the pre-war average. During the first part of the year, supplies for civilians were a little above those of the same months of 1943 because less was taken from current supplies to meet lend-lease and military requirements. Civilian supplies in the latter part of the year were less than in 1943 because of the continuing drop in production. Butter production for the year was about 1,810 million pounds, 10 percent below 1943, and 17 percent below the 1935-39 average. Noncivilian purchases took 285 million pounds of the total supply (about 16 percent) compared with 481 million pounds in 1943.

The civilian consumption of lard was about 14.3 pounds per capita in 1944. Although lard output was slightly larger than in 1943, it was much heavier in the early part of the year and smaller in the latter part. Accordingly, lard supplies were relatively plentiful until this winter. In 1944 Government purchase of lard for lend-lease was expanded; there was a greater use of lard in soap, and commercial exports were increased.

The consumption of shortening and salad and cooking oils was slightly smaller than in 1943, as measured at the production level, but distributors' and consumers' stocks probably were reduced during the year 1944. The large lard supplies prevented any pressure on the supplies of these fats until fall when federally inspected lard production was more than 25 percent below the corresponding months of 1943. Margarine consumption remained approximately the same as the 1943, 3.2 pounds per capita (fat content), about a pound above the 1935-39 rate. Use of fats and oils in the manufacture of these products is restricted by manufacturers' quotas.

Prospects for 1945

Civilian supplies of all fats and oils, on a per capita basis, are estimated at about 42 pounds in 1945, about 5 percent below 1944. The reduction will be due principally to the smaller production of lard and butter and continued larger military and lend-lease requirements. Lard stocks (mainly Government owned) accumulated during 1944 will help out the lard supply situation. However, if exports of lard continue at the high 1944 level, civilian lard consumption may drop to 12.5 pounds per capita. This would still be a pound and a half above the 1935-39 level. Civilian supplies of all food fats and oils, except butter, are estimated to be about the same as during the pre-war peroid 1935-39. On the other hand, it appears that civilian demand will continue to be materially stronger than in pre-war years because of greatly increased incomes.

Butter production in 1945 may fall even below the 1944 level. With very low beginningof year stocks and large war requirements, civilian supplies for the year may not amount to more than 10.5 pounds per capita. Set asides for Government purchase are required from February and March production this year, where as last year they were not instituted until April.

With smaller civilian supplies of butter, there probably will be some increase in margarine consumption. If the manufacturers' quotas are utilized more completely, margarine supplies might be increased as much as 10 percent. Civilian supplies of shortening and other edible fats and oils will be about the same as this past year, but greater demand for them is expected because of smaller lard supplies.

FRUIT

Summary of 1944

Civilian fruit consumption in 1944 was slightly larger than the prewar average (1935-39) but considerably larger than fruit consumption in 1943. Civilians consumed about 67 pounds of fresh citrus per capita in 1944, about 7 pounds more than the year before and 37 percent more than in an average prewar year. The important difference between 1944 and 1943 was in deciduous fruits other than apples, because the 1943 crops were much below normal and those of 1944 were much larger. Half again as many other fruits were consumed fresh as in 1943, but consumption of apples from the commercial supply was about the same in 1943 and 1944 because of the small apple stocks on January 1, 1944.

Canned fruit supplies for civilians became very short because of war requirements. Consumption averaged almost 15 pounds a year before the war and from the 1942-43 pack, but only 10 pounds per capita of canned fruit remained for civilians out of the 1943-44 pack, They may get about the same quantity from this year's pack (1944-45). Fortunately, about 3 pounds more canned fruit juices were available in 1944 than in 1943. The consumption of fruit juices averaged 4 pounds per year in 1935-39, 6 pounds in calendar year 1943, and 9 pounds in calendar year 1944. Dried fruit was much more plentiful in 1944 than the year before, and civilian consumption in the calendar year 1944 appears to have been about equal to the average, 5.6 pounds. Frozen fruit supplies in 1944 amounted to 1.5 pounds per capita, slightly above the 1943 average.

Prospects for 1945

Supplies of all fruits for civilians in 1945 may be a little less than in 1944. Domestic production of deciduous fruits is not likely to equal last year's exceptional crops but the large January 1 stocks of apples and pears may offset in part the possible decrease in this year's crops. The citrus supplies may be also as large as last year, despite the Florida losses. Imports and shipments from insular areas, which are principally bananas, canned pineapple and pineapple juice, probably will not increase very mcuh because of restricted ocean shipping facilities. Supplies remaining from the 1944-45 pack of canned fruits are relatively small. It is too early in the year to predict civilian supplies from the 1945-46 pack but it is safe to assume that war requirements will continue very large, no matter what happens in the European phase of the war. All in all, the civilian canned fruit situation is not expected to be materially different from that in 1944, with supplies considerably less than unrestricted consumer demand. Canned fruit juice supplies for the year as a whole probably will approximate those of 1944 although they might be temporarily reduced by heavy non-civilian procurement.

VEGETABLES

Summary of 1944

Civilian consumption of vegetables including fresh and processed, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, and dry beans was about the same on a poundage basis as consumption in 1943 and slightly above the average in the years from 1935 to 1939. Consumption of fresh vegetables produced commercially and in market and farm gardens in 1944 was 250 pounds, about 14 or 15 pounds above the pre-war level. The increase included 4 pounds of lettuce and escarole, 2 pounds each of onions and tomatoes, and a 3-pound increase in melons. Frozen vegetables set another new record in consumption--about 1.7 pounds per capita compared with the 0.4-pound average 1937-39.

Despite very large non-civilian requirements, canned vegetable consumption in the calendar year 1944 averaged 10 to 15 percent higher than in 1935-39. Civilians received 35.5 pounds per capita during the 1943-44 pack year. About 1,670 million pounds went to fill non-civilian needs, or 37 percent of the total disappearance. Some of this disappearance represented a net decrease in packers' and distributors' stocks. The reduction in the 1944-45 pack and continued large non-civilian requirements are expected to reduce civilian consumption from this pack to 32.5 pounds per capita of all vegetables. 1/ However, stock data indicate that a somewhat larger proportion of the new pack than usual went into civilian channels by the end of December.

The 1943-44 potato crop was of record size. As a result large quantities were available in the first part of 1944 for civilian consumption. Per capita civilian consumption from that crop was much smaller than that of the previous year, although above average. There was some increase in takings for noncivilian needs. Therefore, civilian supplies of about 112 pounds per capita from the 1944-45 crop as a whole are expected to be about 20 pounds less than in 1943-44 and 18 pounds less than the 130 pounds

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1/ Bureau of Agricultural Economics data on canned vegetables include asparagus, beans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, mixed vegetables, peas, pumpkin and squash, spinach, leafy greens, tomatoes, hominy, kraut (including bulk), pickles (including bulk), pimentos, potatoes, sweetpotatoes, tomato pulp, juice (including vegetable combinations) tomato sauce, paste, catsup and chili sauce. War Food Administration data usually include soups and purees, baked beans, baby foods, and a small quantity of miscellaneous canned vegetables in addition to those included by BAE. Office of Price Administration data on canned vegetables refer only to the 12 principal canned vegetables given first in the BAE list above.

in 1935-39. As in the case of canned vegetables, a larger proportion of the supply available for civilians than usual appears to have gone into civilian distribution channels before January 1. Stocks of potatoes on January 1, 1945, amounting to 103.5 million bushels approximated the average January 1 stocks, 1930-39, but 1944-45 production was 5 percent larger. Large non-civilian requirements for fresh use and processing must be filled out of the remaining supplies.

Civilian consumption of sweetpotatoes during 1944 appears to have been approximately equal to average consumption in 1935-39. The 1943-44 crop of sweetpotatoes was very large. Increased war needs from the slightly smaller 1944-45 crop resulted in somewhat smaller civilian supplies from this crop, 21.7 pounds per capita.

Supplies of dry edible beans available to civilians during the calendar year 1944 have been somewhat smaller than the average of 8.8 pounds for 1935-39 and for 1943.

Prospects for 1945

The over-all civilian supply of vegetables in 1945 may be somewhat reduced from the large supplies available in 1944, when yields were above average. If yields are about average in 1945 and acreages planted do not change materially, a decrease of up to 10 percent in commercial production may reduce civilian supplies of fresh vegetables as much as 10 pounds per capita. With such a reduction fresh vegetable supplies from commercial, market and farm sources in 1945 would be only slightly above the 1935-39 level. This possibility is a good reason for continuation of emphasis on Victory Gardens.

As discussed above, a larger proportion than usual of civilian supplies of canned vegetables and of potatoes from the 1944-45 supplies appear to have moved into distribution before January 1. Accordingly, canned vegetable supplies would be considerable short of demand if it were not restricted although perhaps as large as in pre-war years (1935-39), until supplies from the new pack are available. It is too early to predict how much civilians will get from the 1945-46 pack, but we may expect war requirements to continue very large and we cannot expect much, if any, increase in the total pack. Civilian demand for processed foods will be continued at a high level because of high consumer incomes, increased number of housewives in the labor force, long working hours, and heavy demand by such institutional users as restaurants and hotels.

Potato supplies will be relatively short of demand at ceiling prices in some areas for a few months this spring because of the smaller late 1944 crop and continued heavy war need. Although supplies of commercial early potatoes will be larger than usual, they will not make up for the reduced supplies from the 1944 crop remaining on January 1, as discussed above. The shortage will be accentuated if the late spring crop is harvested later than usual. For the year 1945 as a whole, potato supplies may be slightly smaller than in 1944. Sweetpotato supplies may also be a little smaller. The decreased production of dry edible beans in 1944-45, and large non-civilian requirements have reduced estimated civilian supplies for 1945 to about 8 pounds per capita, 10 percent below the 1935-39 average.

FOOD GRAINS

Summary of 1944

The consumption of cereal products in 1944 was at a remarkably high level in view of the heavy consumption of other popular high protein foods and large consumer incomes. The demand for cereal products is generally believed to be somewhat less in periods of high consumer incomes. Apparently the inadequacy of supplies of some other foods in meeting demand for them and the desirability and convenience of the processed cereal products were the principal reasons for the heavy cereal consumption. The total cereal supply available for civilians has been adequate to meet full demand during the past year, although rice and a few corn products were short in some areas at times.

Wheat flour consumption of 160 pounds per capita was about 4 percent above the pre-war average 1935-39 and wheat breakfast food consumption also increased slightly. The civilian per capita cosumption of rye flour in 1944 appears to have been 2.5 pounds, about the same as the 1935-39 average. There has been no particular change in average rice consumption during the war years.

With the exception of corn sirup, about the same quantities of corn products were consumed by civilians in 1944 as in 1943, despite temporary difficulties in supplying the processors of corn before the new crop became available. Although corn sirup consumption per capita in 1944 was about half a pound below the previous year's rate, and 4 pounds less than the 14 pound record of 1942, it was well above the pre-war average. It is interesting to note that cane and beet sugar consumption was 10 percent higher in 1944 than in 1943 and about 2 pounds above the 1942 rate. Much more corn appears to have been consumed in 1944 in the forms of corn sugar, breakfast food, and hominy than in the 1935-39 period. Oatmeal and barley food product consumption has also increased about 20 percent.

The total civilian and non-civilian disappearance of wheat as food was about 604 million bushels, a little more than half of the total 1944 domestic wheat disappearance of 1.1 billion bushels. Rye production in 1944 was about 15 percent smaller in 1944 than in 1943 and the quantitiy used as food was reduced about as much. Rice production in 1944 was 70.2 million bushels, the largest in our history. Nevertheless, domestic rice consumption was no larger than in the pre-war years (1935-39) because large quantities were exported to fill the needs of countries which were formerly supplies by oriental sources.

Prospects for 1945

Practically no change is expected in the civilian supplies of cereal products in 1945 compared with the quantities consumed in 1944. Large wheat stocks are available and the prospects for the 1945 crops are excellent. The 1945 rye crop may be larger than the 1944 crop but no increase in the demand for rye as food is expected. Rice acreages in 1945 probably will be very large although slightly less than in 1943 and 1944, and the yield is expected to be about average. The crop would provide for about the pre-war consumption rate by civilians and meet large foreign requirements. The large crops of corn, oats, and barley in 1944 and average yields on larger acreages in 1945 than were harvested last year assure plentiful supplies of these grains for food and large quantities for other uses.

SUGAR AND BEVERAGES

Sugar

The civilian consumption of cane and beet sugar in 1944 amounted to about 88.4 pounds per capita, about 8 pounds more than in 1943, but 8 pounds less than the average consumption during the years from 1935 to 1939. More sugar was used during 1944 for home canning because of the large fruit crop, and other usage increased somewhat. Despite the fact that more sugar was imported than contemplated at the beginning of the year, the relatively heavy consumption in 1944 resulted in a 20 percent decrease in stocks from the beginning to the end of the year.

Sugar supplies available for civilian consumption in 1945 are expected to be smaller than in 1944, perhaps by 10 pounds per capita. Receipts from foreign countries and from territories may increase somewhat but the increase will be taken to fill non-civilian needs. Stocks are so low that they must be maintained or increased instead of being reduced to supplement current civilian supplies, as in 1944.

Beverages

Coffee consumption by civilians established a new record of 16 pounds per capita, half a pound higher than in 1940 and 1941 and 3 pounds more than the 1943 rate. Although imports might be slightly smaller in 1945, large stocks are available to maintain civilian consumption in 1945 at about the same rate as in 1944.

Tea consumption in 1944 was about the same as in the previous two years and stocks were increased during the year. Imports in 1945 are expected to be about the same as in 1944 so civilian consumption might be somewhat larger.

The civilian consumption of 3.4 pounds of cocoa beans, in 1944 was larger than in 1943 but more than 20 percent below the per capita rate in 1935-39. Civilian supplies in 1945 are expected to be practically the same as in 1944.

Table 4.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945, with percentage comparisons 1/

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-1939	1942	1943	1944 preliminary	1945 preliminary indication	1945 as a pe centage of	
							1935-39	1944
Meats (dressed weight)								
Beef	Mil. lb.	6,936	8,831	8,536	9,100	9,400	136	103
Veal	"	1,038	1,139	1,142	1,700	1,600	154	94
Lamb and Mutton	"	871	1,045	1,107	985	875	100	89
Pork (excluding lard)	"	7,337	10,723	13,371	12,900	10,500	143	81
Total meats	"	16,182	21,738	24,156	24,685	22,375	138	91
Poultry products								
Eggs	Mil. doz.	3,335	4,430	4,965	5,270	4,785	143	91
Chickens (dressed weight)	Mil. lb.	2,325	2,988	3,821	3,330	3,165	136	95
Turkeys (dressed weight)	"	350	496	466	507	515	147	102
Dairy products								
Total milk for human consumption 2/	"	103,656	118,773	117,689	118,526	119,000	115	100
Cheese 3/	"	669	1,109	993	997	1,020	152	102
Condensed and evaporated milk	"	2,225	3,782	3,352	3,688	3,808	171	103
Fluid milk and cream 4/	"	44,146	49,514	53,929	56,206	56,700	128	101
Fats and oils 5/								
Butter, farm and factory	"	2,170	2,130	2,014	1,810	1,755	81	97
Lard 6/	"	1,624	2,398	2,920	3,000	2,275	140	76
Margarine	"	303	347	500	504	524	173	104
Shortening	"	1,529	1,300	1,438	1,366	1,515	99	111
Other edible fats and oils 7/	"	580	1,138	1,264	1,107	1,038	179	94
Total fats and oils	"	6,206	7,313	8,136	7,787	7,107	115	91
Fruits								
Fresh:								
Citrus	"	6,870	8,333	8,836	10,049	9,658	141	96
Apples (commercial)	"	4,384	4,052	3,122	4,304	4,040	92	94
Other (excluding melons) 8/	"	4,807	4,896	3,526	5,622	4,932	103	88
Total fresh	"	16,061	17,281	15,484	19,975	18,630	116	93
Processed:								
Canned fruit 9/	"	1,666	2,180	1,587	2,186	18/	---	---
Canned juices 10/	"	321	859	1,375	1,604	18/	---	---
Frozen 11/	"	106	221	221	240	18/	---	---
Dried 12/	"	1,127	1,045	1,388	1,090	18/	---	---

- Continued

Table 4.- Production of major food commodities, calendar years, 1935-39 average, 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 with percentage comparison 1/ - Continued

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-1939	1942	1943	1944 preliminary	1945 preliminary indication	1945 as a percentage of 1935-39	1945 as a percentage of 1944
Vegetables								
Fresh 13/	Mil. lb.	30,498	34,161	31,665	34,148	32,400	106	95
Canned 14/	"	4,084	6,344	6,235	6,324	18/	---	---
Frozen 15/	"	16/78.3	162.6	226.8	235.6	18/		
Potatoes	Mil. bu.	359	371	461	379	18/	---	---
Sweetpotatoes	"	68	66	73	73	18/	---	---
Dry edible beans 17/	Mil. lb.	1,361	1,761	1,935	1,502	18/	---	---
Sugar, raw basis	1,000 short tons	1,943	2,141	1,531	1,600	1,650	85	103
Grains								
Wheat	Mil. bu.	759	974	841	1,079	975	128	90
Rye	"	44.9	57.7	30.8	25.9	31.0	69	120
Rice	"	49.9	64.6	64.8	70.2	65.5	131	93
Corn	"	2,316	3,132	3,034	3,228	3,082	133	95
Oats	"	1,045	1,350	1,138	1,166	1,295	124	111
Barley	"	239	426	324	284	283	118	100
Peanuts	Mil. lb.	1,229	2,212	2,185	2,178	2,400	195	110

/ Calendar year basis except for fresh citurs fruit for which the season begins in the all of the previous year: canned fruits, canned vegetables, and dried fruits which are n a pack-year basis; potatoes and sweetpotatoes, on the basis of a year beginning uly 1. 2/ The production of total milk for human consumption differs from total arm production of milk in that the former excludes milk fed to calves but includes ff-farm production while the latter excludes off-farm production but includes milk ed to calves. Milk fed to calves and milk produced off farms are usually of approximately qual volume. 3/ Excluding full skim, cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese. 4/ Fluid ilk equivalent for fresh use. 5/ Fat content basis except for butter which is on n actual weight basis. 6/ Excluding amount used in manufactured products. 7/ Represents ats used in cooking and salad oils, salad dressing, mayonnaise, bakery products, and ther minor uses such as fish canning. 8/ Includes apricots, avocados, bananas, cherries, ranberries, figs, grapes, peaches, pears, pineapples, plums and prunes, and straw-erries. 9/ Includes apples and applesauce, apricots, berries, cherries, (including rined), cranberries, figs, fruit cocktail, fruits for salad, grapefruit segments, lives, pineapples, plums and prunes, peaches, and pears. 10/ Includes grape, grape-ruit, lemon, orange, pineapple, and miscellaneous, also concentrates. 11/ Principally herries, strawberries, and other berries. 12/ Includes apples, apricots, dates, figs eaches, pears, prunes, and raisins. 13/ Estimates of all vegetables and melons other han potatoes and sweetpotatoes include reported commercial production for fresh market hipments plus rough estimates of quantities produced in market gardens for fresh sale nd farm gardens for home use. Excludes town garden production. 14/ Includes asparagus eans (lima), beans (snap), beets, carrots, corn, hominy, kraut (including bulk) eas, pickles (including bulk), pimientos, Irish potatoes, sweetpotatoes, pumpkin and quash, tomatoes, tomato pulp, and tomato juice, tomato sauce, paste, and catsup, and hili sauce, mixed vegetables. 15/ Includes asparagus, snap beans, lima beans, roccoli, brussel sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, corn, peas, peas and carrots (mixed), pinach, squash, and miscellaneous. 16/ Average 1937-39. Data prior to 1937 are not vailable. 17/ Cleaned basis. 18/ 1945-46 estimates not available until April.

Table 5.- Retail food prices and total cost of living, United States by months, 1942-44

(Index numbers 1935-39 = 100)

Year and month	Meats	Eggs	Dairy products	Fats and oils	Cereals and bakery products	Fruits and vegetables			Sugar and sweets	Beverages	All foods	Total cost of living
						Fresh	Canned	Dried				
1942	126	136	125	120	105	133	122	136	127	122	124	116
Jan.	116	131	122	111	103	119	109	122	118	116	116	112
Feb.	118	119	122	114	104	118	115	125	128	117	117	113
Mar.	120	112	122	117	105	124	121	128	128	120	119	114
Apr.	122	111	122	120	105	126	122	131	128	123	120	115
May	124	115	123	122	105	130	123	131	127	125	122	116
June	127	120	122	120	105	137	122	133	127	123	123	116
July	128	130	123	120	105	139	122	134	127	123	125	117
Aug.	130	146	126	120	105	135	123	139	127	124	126	118
Sept.	131	155	128	121	105	130	124	143	127	124	127	118
Oct.	131	165	131	121	106	139	125	150	127	124	130	119
Nov.	132	166	132	124	106	145	127	150	127	125	131	120
Dec.	133	167	132	125	106	151	128	150	128	124	133	120
1943	134	162	135	126	108	178	131	159	127	125	138	124
Jan.	135	166	134	126	106	147	129	154	127	124	133	121
Feb.	136	144	136	126	106	153	131	156	127	125	134	121
Mar.	137	142	137	126	107	173	132	157	128	125	137	123
Apr.	138	141	137	127	108	191	132	158	128	125	141	124
May	138	142	137	126	108	206	131	158	128	124	143	125
June	138	146	134	126	108	202	130	158	126	124	142	125
July	131	154	133	126	108	193	130	159	126	124	139	124
Aug.	130	167	133	126	108	179	130	160	127	125	137	123
Sept.	130	178	134	126	108	176	130	160	127	125	137	124
Oct.	131	190	134	126	108	175	130	162	127	125	138	124
Nov.	130	191	134	125	108	170	130	162	127	125	137	124
Dec.	131	181	134	124	108	172	130	162	127	125	137	124
1944	130	153	134	123	108	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Jan.	131	154	134	124	108	175	130	163	127	124	136	124
Feb.	130	143	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Mar.	131	135	134	124	108	171	130	163	127	124	134	124
Apr.	130	128	134	124	108	178	130	163	127	124	135	125
May	130	127	134	123	108	183	129	164	126	124	136	125
June	130	129	134	123	108	185	129	164	126	124	136	125
July	129	149	134	123	108	188	129	165	127	124	137	126
Aug.	129	159	134	123	108	187	129	165	126	124	138	126
Sept.	129	158	134	123	109	179	129	165	126	124	137	126
Oct.	129	179	134	123	109	170	130	166	126	124	136	126
Nov.	130	187	134	123	109	168	130	166	126	124	136	126
Dec.1/	130	188	134	123	109	164	130	166	126	124	137	127

Index numbers from Bureau of Labor Statistics and rounded to the nearest whole number by Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

1/ Preliminary.